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# PURDON'S DIGEST---1700 TO 1853.

[CIRCULAR.]

PHILADELPHIA, November 1853.

SIR,—We beg leave to invite your attention to the accompanying Specimen Pages of our Eighth Edition, *Just Published*, of PURDON'S DIGEST, FROM 1700 TO 1853, edited by F. C. BRIGHTLY, Esquire.

You will observe that, besides the Characteristics which have commended this work through so many editions to public favor, it is now distinguished by the following *superadded* Features.

1. It possesses MARGINAL REFERENCES to each Section, whereby its Contents can be seen at a glance.

2. The NOTES OF JUDICIAL DECISIONS are placed at *the foot of the page*, and refer to the respective Sections of which they are the Judicial Interpretation.

3. The CONTENTS comprise not only, as heretofore, the Titles of each Subject, but also the various Subdivisions into which each Title has been distributed.

4. The REFERENCES TO THE ACTS have been removed from the body of the page (where heretofore they have been a deformity and an interruption of the continuity of the matter), and have been placed by themselves, between the Text and the Notes of Judicial Decisions.

5. The INDEX is of unique comprehensiveness and detail, and refers not only to the Laws, but also, for the first time in any similar Index, to the Constitutions of the United States and Pennsylvania. The matter has been arranged under *Local*, as well as General Titles: for instance, the names of Counties, Cities and many of the Towns of the State will be found in the Index in their Alphabetical order, with a Summary of the Legislation in which each of them is interested. The *Section*, as well as the page, has been given; by means of which, greatly increased facility and speed in the use of the work is obtained, not merely by Professional gentlemen, but also by those Unlearned in the Law.

6. In order that Errors might be avoided, the PAGE OF EVERY REFERENCE has been verified; in the case of the Notes by examination of the Authorities, and in the Index by comparison with the Text; after the matter was in type.

*Lastly.* Careful regard has been had, in the choice of the Type, to produce a book which should not be amenable to the charge of *great bulk and unwieldiness*—a fault which has characterized previous Digests.

It has been our object to send forth a book which shall combine all the excellences which can distinguish a work of the sort; and, in forming our plan, we were not only aided by the counsel of experienced members of the Bench and Bar, but we also examined a great variety of Digests issued in other states, with the view of copying such improvements as they might suggest. We trust that our industry in this respect has not been ill judged or thrown away.

The freshness and permanent value of Purdon's Digest will be preserved by the publication from time to time of Supplements, which will be prepared by the learned Editor, Mr. BRIGHTLY, in continuation of the present work, and in exact conformity of plan.

It only remains to be added, that in "PURDON'S DIGEST," and its Companion, "ROBERT'S DIGEST OF BRITISH STATUTES IN FORCE IN THIS STATE," will be found a Complete Body of the Statute Law of Pennsylvania as it exists at this time.

In order that no impediment may be thrown in the way of the purchase of PURDON'S DIGEST, but that, on the contrary, it may become a Legal Manual in use in every Court and Law-Chamber, Counting-House and Dwelling, in the State, as well as in its Legislative Halls and Public Offices, we have determined to sell the work at FIVE DOLLARS per copy; and we flatter ourselves that a Law Book so costly in its preparation has never before been offered at so low a price.

Your obedient servants,

KAY & BROTHER,

LAW BOOKSELLERS AND PUBLISHERS, 193 MARKET STREET.

 Purdon's Digest, and Roberts's Digest, if purchased together, will be sold at \$6.50.

FROM THE JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF  
PENNSYLVANIA.

Messrs. KAY & BROTHER,

Gentlemen—We have examined the sheets you sent us of MR. BRIGHTLY's proposed Edition of PURDON'S DIGEST, and do not hesitate to declare it as our opinion that the whole plan of the book is admirable; and that its execution, so far as we can judge by the specimen, is worthy of the plan. The order in which the Statutes are printed, the Marginal Notes, the Foot Notes, and the full Analysis of each division, as well as the other new features, are all great improvements. Mr. Brightly deserves the thanks of the Profession, and we authorize you to tender him ours.

We are most respectfully yours,

J. S. BLACK,

ELLIS LEWIS,

JOHN B. GIBSON,

W. H. LOWRIE,

GEO. W. WOODWARD.

Philadelphia, 18 January 1853.

*Circum or. Double Page*

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# **Purdon's Digest.**

## **A DIGEST**

OF THE

## **LAW S OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

FROM THE

YEAR ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED

TO THE

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF MAY, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE.

---

THE FIRST FOUR EDITIONS BY THE LATE  
JOHN PURDON, ESQ.,

THE FIFTH, SIXTH AND SEVENTH BY THE  
HON. GEORGE M. STROUD.

---

### **EIGHTH EDITION.**

Revised, with Marginal References; Foot Notes to the Judicial Decisions; Analytical Contents; a Digested Syllabus of each Title; and a New, Full and Exhaustive Index.

BY

**FREDERICK C. BRIGHTLY, ESQ.,**

AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF COSTS," "NISI PRIUS REPORTS," ETC.

---

PHILADELPHIA:

JAMES KAY, JUN. & BROTHER, 193 MARKET STREET,  
LAW BOOKSELLERS AND PUBLISHERS.

1853.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, by  
THOMAS DAVIS, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, by  
JAMES KAY, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, by  
JAMES KAY, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

## PREFACE.

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In presenting to the Profession a new and, it is hoped, improved edition of PURDON'S DIGEST, the Editor would seem to be called on for some explanation of the proposed modifications in the plan of a work which for so long a period has been the familiar guide-book of the Pennsylvania lawyer.

Many Digests of our Laws have heretofore been published, both in the Chronological and Alphabetical arrangements.

Of the former, there were two editions by Andrew Bradford, the colonial printer, in 1714 and 1728; one by Benjamin Franklin, in 1742; two by Peter Miller, in 1762; one by Hall & Sellers, in 1775; one by Thomas M'Kean, in 1781; one by Alexander J. Dallas, in 1797-1801; one by Carey & Bioren, in 1803-1808; one by Smith & Reed, in 1810-1844; and three by James Dunlop, in 1846-1852.

The first attempt to make an Alphabetical arrangement of the Laws of Pennsylvania was the work of Collinson Read, in 1801. This was followed, at suitable intervals of time, by four editions by John Purdon, in 1811-1830; and three subsequent ones of the same work by George M. Stroud, in 1836-1847.

In preparing the present edition of Purdon's Digest, the Editor has been actuated by the conviction, that what the Practitioner requires is, a Complete Analytical View of the Law on any given Subject, presented to the eye in a continuous connexion. So to present it, has been the endeavor of the Editor; and, to accomplish this object, some modifications in the plan of the former editions became requisite.

This has been effected by grouping together every Act and Section bearing upon the particular subject, and by placing the dates of the Statutes at the foot of the page; while, to facilitate reference to every portion of the work, in addition to a new and very full general Index (in which the section as well as the page is given), there is prefixed to each Title a Table of its Contents, with Marginal Notes to each Section, and Foot Notes of Judicial Decisions, not only of the Supreme Court, but of every other Pennsylvania tribunal, to the reported or unreported decisions of which the Editor had access: these have been brought down to the period of publication, including the cases in the Seventh Volume of Harris's Reports.

That the Editor has accomplished his work without imperfections, is not to be expected; if such should be discovered, he trusts to the kind feeling of his brethren of the Profession to overlook them, with the assurance that his best endeavours have been exerted, to render the Digest as worthy as possible of their approbation: he will thankfully receive any communication pointing out errors that may have escaped his notice, in order to their correction in future editions.

To insure accuracy, every reference has been verified by examination of the authorities, after the matter was in type.

It is intended to continue Purdon's Digest from time to time by the publication of Supplementary additions.

To obtain a Complete Body of the Statute Law of this State, it is only necessary, in connexion with PURDON, to possess ROBERTS'S DIGEST OF BRITISH STATUTES IN FORCE IN PENNSYLVANIA, a work of permanent value, which was originally compiled and annotated by a distinguished Judge, and has recently been industriously and faithfully edited. Its importance to the Profession cannot be too highly estimated.

F. C. BRIGHTLY.

Philadelphia, November 1853.

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# A DIGEST

OF THE

## LAWS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

### Abatement.

1. Actions, by or against executors, not to abate by death, resignation or removal. Their successors to be made parties.  
 2. Actions by trustees or assignees not to abate by death or removal. Nor by omission to name all of them as parties. Omitted parties to be added.  
 3. Actions by executors or trustees under a will not to abate by death, resignation or removal. Their successors to be substituted on record.  
 4. Actions not to abate by marriage of *feme sole* plaintiff. Husband may become party.  
 5. Ejectment not to abate by death of parties.  
 6. Or by sale or assignment of plaintiff's title.  
 7. Plea in abatement not to be received in partition.  
 8. Action for negligence not to abate by death of plaintiff.  
 9. Domestic attachment not to abate by death of defendant.  
 10. Actions brought by insolvents may be prosecuted by their trustees.

1. No action or other legal proceedings, commenced by or against executors or administrators, shall be abated or otherwise defeated, by reason of the death, dismissal, resignation or renunciation of any one or more of them, nor by reason of the annulling or revoking of the letters or powers granted to them, or any of them; but such suit or proceeding may be prosecuted to final judgment or decree, by or against such other person or persons as may have been joined with them in the administration, or by or against such person or persons as may be their successors therein, in all cases, in like manner as if no such change had occurred or act been done; and in all cases of the vacancy of the administration as aforesaid, the successors therein shall be made party to such action or proceeding, in a manner provided by the 26th and 27th sections of this act.

2. No suit or action now commenced or hereafter to be commenced in any of the courts of this commonwealth, by [executors, administrators,] (a) trustees or assignees, shall abate, or the judgment which may be entered therein reversed or set aside, for or by reason of any or all of such [executors, administrators,] trustees or assignees, being dead either at the time of such suit brought, or during the pendency thereof, or by reason of all or any of them being superseded or removed, [or the letters testamentary or of administration being repealed or annulled,] but the same may be proceeded in to final judgment by the legal representatives, upon making the proper suggestions upon the record which the case may require: nor shall any suit or action abate, or the judgment therein be reversed or set aside, by the omission to name on the record any one of the party or parties, but in such case the names of the persons so omitted may, upon application to the court, be added to the record, (b) and the cause shall thereupon be proceeded in to trial and final judgment with the same effect as if such names had been originally inserted upon the record.

3. In all actions now pending in any of the courts of this commonwealth, or which hereafter may be brought, in which executors or trustees, appointed by or under the authority of any last will and testament, with power over the real or personal estate of the testator, are plaintiffs, and any one or more of such plaintiffs shall have died, or resigned, or been removed, or shall die, resign, or be removed, such action shall not thereby abate, but it shall be the duty of the court in which such action is or shall be pending, to substitute upon the record, in place of the executor or executors, trustee or trustees, whose death, resignation or removal shall have caused the vacancy, any executor or executors, trustee or trustees, who shall have been, or shall be legally appointed to supply the same, and the suit or action shall be proceeded in to trial, judgment and execution, in the same manner as if the plaintiffs had been originally entitled to maintain the action.

4. No suit or other legal proceeding in any court of this commonwealth, brought by a *feme sole*, now, or hereafter pending, shall abate by the marriage of the plaintiff or petitioner, contracted after the commencement of the same; but the husband of such plaintiff or petitioner shall have the power to become a party thereto, and prosecute the same to final judgment or decree.

5. No writ of ejectment shall abate by reason of the death of any plaintiff or defendant, *Ejectment*

1. Act 24 February 1834, § 32. P. L. 79. 3. Act 9 April 1849, § 13. P. L. 527. 5. Act 13 April 1807, § 3. 4 Sm. 477.  
 2. Act 24 March 1818, § 7. 7 Sm. 132. 4. Act 12 April 1845, § 1. P. L. 386.

(a) This section is supplied so far as respects executors and administrators by act 24 February 1834, § 32, *supra* 1; and act 4 May 1852, § 2. P. L. 574.

(b) This section only extends to actions brought in a repre-

sentative capacity. 8 S. & R. 56. 3 Barr 98. But names of omitted parties may now be added, in other cases, by act 4 May 1852. P. L. 574.

## Abatement.—Account.

not to abate but the person or persons next (c) in interest may be substituted in the place of the plaintiff by death of defendant who shall have died, pending the writ. (d)

6. When the title of a plaintiff in ejectment to lands may have been changed, by sale or assignment, after action brought, the suit shall not be affected thereby; but the purchaser or assignee may prosecute said action; and the verdict and judgment in said action shall inure to him, in the same manner that they would have inured to the said plaintiff if no sale or assignment had taken place; and the purchaser of the real estate in controversy may be substituted on record by a motion in open court.

Plea in abatement not to be received in partition. Action for negligence not to abate by death.

Domestic attachment not to abate by death of defendant.

Actions brought by insolvents, may be prosecuted by their trustees.

7. No plea in abatement shall be admitted or received in any suit for partition (e) nor shall the same be abated by reason of the death of any defendant.

8. No action hereafter brought to recover damages for injuries to the person by negligence or default, shall abate by reason of the death of the plaintiff; but the personal representatives of the deceased may be substituted as plaintiff, and prosecute the suit to final judgment and satisfaction.

9. The death of the defendant after the issuing of the [domestic] attachment, shall not abate, or otherwise affect the proceeding thereon, but the same shall be continued and concluded, in like manner as if such defendant had lived: *Provided*, That notice of the pendency of the attachment be given to the executors, administrators or heirs of such defendant.

10. No action or other legal proceedings instituted by any such [insolvent] debtor, and pending at the time of the appointment of a trustee or trustees, as aforesaid, shall abate thereby, but the same shall be continued by, and inure to the benefit of such trustee or trustees.

## Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt.

[SEE ACTIONS PERSONAL 52-70.]

## Account.

### I. AT COMMON LAW.

1. Account render may be arbitrated.  
2. Auditors to be appointed. Or jury to settle the accounts. Parties to answer interrogatories. In default of answer, facts to be taken as admitted. Parties may be compelled to produce books and papers.  
3. Powers of jury. And of the court.  
4. Against executors for legacy.

Account render may be arbitrated.

Auditors to be appointed.

Or jury to settle the accounts. Parties to answer interrogatories. In default of answer, facts to be taken as admitted.

### II. IN EQUITY.

5. Courts to have equity jurisdiction in account. Parties may proceed in equity, or at law. Solicitor's certificate to be filed  
6. Jurisdiction enlarged, in certain counties.  
7. Tenants in common of mines may have account in equity. All the tenants in common to be made parties. How process to be served out of the county.  
8. Parties may appeal to the supreme court.

### I. AT COMMON LAW.

1. The act, entitled "An act regulating arbitrations," passed the 20th of March 1810, (f) and the several supplements thereto, shall be deemed to extend to actions of account render; and the arbitrators appointed by virtue thereof, shall hear, and a majority of them determine on the whole merits of the cause, and report the balance due by either party to the other, and shall also make and annex to their report, from the account of the parties, their allegations and proofs, such an account between them as they shall think just; which account shall result in the balance reported in their award. (g)

2. In all actions of account render, now pending, or which may hereafter be brought, after it shall have been found, or admitted by the pleadings, that the defendant is liable to account to the plaintiff, it shall be in the discretion of the court in which the same is or shall be pending, to either appoint auditors and proceed according to the practices and usages of the common law, (h) or direct a jury to be empanelled to settle the accounts of the parties, and find the balance due the plaintiff or defendant. And on the application of either of the parties, and interrogatories filed, it shall be lawful for the court to require the adverse party to disclose on oath his knowledge of such facts, as shall in the opinion of said court be necessary for a just and equitable adjustment of the controversy; and on the party being so called on, and refusing to answer, on the requisition of the court, the fact stated by the adverse party, in his interrogatory, shall be taken as admitted; and the parties

6. Act 26 April 1850, § 4. P. L. 591.  
7. Act 7 April 1807, § 4. 4 Sm. 400.  
8. Act 15 April 1851, § 18. P. L. 674.

9. Act 13 June 1836, § 42. P. L. 615.  
10. Act 16 June 1836, § 22. P. L. 735.

1. Act 30 March 1821, § 1. 7 Sm. 429.  
2. Act 13 October 1840, § 18. P. L. 7.

(c) On the death of a trustee, his devisees were substituted. 3 P. R. 426. And on death of tenant in tail, the heir in tail. 4 W. & S. 437. Where the heir aliened, his alienee. 4 Barr 420.

(d) The party next in interest may be compelled to appear. 7 S. & R. 203. 4 Barr 420.

(e) Judgment *quod partitio fiat*, followed by a valuation and decree of sale, is no bar to another action by another tenant of the same land. 4 P. L. J. 231.

(f) Supplied by the revised act 16 June 1836. See "Arbitration," 15.

(g) The arbitrators must annex to their report an account between the parties resulting in the balance awarded. 10 S. & R. 227. 13 S. & R. 112. An account left at the prothonotary's office on the day after the filing of the award, will not satisfy the

statute. 3 H. 116.

(h) The auditors are mere clerks to take and state the accounts between the parties. They have no power to decide any matter of dispute, either in point of fact or law. If the matters offered by either party are disputed by the other, he may either demur or take issue before the auditors. If there are more points of dispute than one, there may be a demurrer or an issue on each, which are to be certified by the auditors to the court; and then the matter of law will be decided by the court, and the issues in fact by a jury; after which, the account will be finally settled by the auditors according to the result of the trials. Abrams v. Hunt, 2 T. & H. Pr. 155, note b. Miller v. Anspaeh, Ibid. 156. 5 B. 433.

## Account.

shall have power to compel the production of such books, papers and documents, either in court or before the auditors, as may be necessary for a just and equitable settlement of the controversy, according to the provisions of the 1st section of the act of 27th February 1798, entitled "An act extending the powers of the supreme court and courts of common pleas."(i)

3. In all actions of account render, now pending, or to be brought, the jury before whom the same shall be tried, shall have full power to settle the accounts of the parties, and find a jury in favor of the plaintiff, or one or more of the defendants, such sum or sums as shall appear to be due;(j) and the court in which said action is pending, or any judge thereof, may make such orders upon any of the parties, in relation to books, documents or papers, as may appear to be necessary, for a full and equitable adjustment of the controversy.

4. It shall be lawful for any person to whom any bequest of money, or other goods or chattels, may be made by last will or testament, to commence and prosecute an action of debt, detinue, account render, or an action on the case for the recovery thereof, after it becomes due, against the executors of such will having in their hands sufficient assets to pay all the just debts of the testator, and the legacies by him bequeathed.

## II. IN EQUITY.

5. The supreme court, the several district courts and courts of common pleas, within this commonwealth, shall have all the powers and jurisdiction of courts of chancery in settling partnership accounts,(k) and such other accounts and claims, as by the common law and usages of this commonwealth have heretofore been settled by the action of account render;(l) and it shall be in the power of the party desirous to commence such action, to proceed either by bill in chancery, or at common law, but no bill in chancery shall be entertained unless the counsel filing the same shall certify that in his opinion the case is of such a nature that no adequate remedy can be obtained at law, or that the remedy at law will be attended with great additional trouble, inconvenience or delay.

6. The equity jurisdiction of the supreme court, within the city and county of Philadelphia, and of the court of common pleas for said county, shall be extended to all cases arising in said city and county, over which courts of chancery entertain jurisdiction on the grounds of fraud, accident, mistake or account.(m)

7. In all cases in which any coal or iron-ore mines or minerals have been or shall be held by two or more persons, as tenants in common, and coal, iron-ore or other mineral, has been or shall be taken from the same, by any one or more of said tenants respectively, it shall be lawful for any one of said tenants in common to apply by bill or petition in equity, to the court of common pleas of the county in which the lands lie, praying that an account may be decreed and taken of all coal, iron-ore or other mineral, taken by said tenants respectively; and the said court shall thereupon proceed upon such bill or petition, agreeably to the course of a court of chancery, and shall have full power and authority to make all orders, appointments and decrees, interlocutory and final, that may appertain to justice and equity in the premises, and may cause to be ascertained the quantity and value of the coal, iron-ore or other mineral, so taken respectively by the respective parties, and the sum that may be justly and equitably due, by and from, and to them respectively therefor, according to the respective proportions and interests to which they may be respectively entitled in the lands: *Provided*, That all the tenants in common shall be made parties to such bill or petition, and that if any of them reside out of the county in which such lands lie, or out of this commonwealth, the court may make such order for serving process or notice upon them, by publication, or otherwise, as the said court shall deem fit and proper, and may take the bill or petition *pro confesso*, and proceed to final decree, or proceed by attachment and sequestration, against such of them as shall fail to appear thereupon, or shall neglect or refuse to stand to, obey and abide by the orders and decrees of said court.(n)

8. Any party may appeal to the supreme court from any final decree made by any court of common pleas under this act: *Provided*, That such appeal be taken within one year after the rendering of such final decree, and that the party appealing, before taking his appeal, shall file and make affidavit that the same is not intended for delay, and shall give such security to prosecute his appeal with effect, as shall be required by the said court of common pleas or the supreme court.

3. Act 4 April 1831, § 1. P. L. 492.  
4. Act 24 February 1834, § 50. P. L. 83.

5. Act 13 October 1840, § 19. P. L. 7.  
6. Act 13 June 1840, § 39. P. L. 671.

7. Act 25 April 1850, § 24. P. L. 573.  
8. Ibid. § 25.

(i) See "Evidence," 1.  
(k) See 7 Barr 283.

(j) See 2 Wh. 40, 41.

(m) See 2 J. 49. By subsequent acts the like jurisdiction is conferred on the courts of common pleas of Lancaster, York, Huntingdon, Bedford, Somerset, Blair, Cambria, Mifflin, Clearfield, Schuylkill, Tioga, Potter, McKean, Elk, Union, Juniata, Butler, Fayette, Berks, Lycoming, Montgomery and Luzerne, and on the district court of Allegheny county. See "Equity," 8-22.

(l) Account render lies between partners. 3 B. 317. 15 S. & R. 156. Between client and attorney. 4 W. 420. Tenants in common. 3 B. 317. 10 S. & R. 220. Trustee and *cestui que trust*. 7 Barr 175. 2 W. 95. And generally, wherever one person has received money as the agent of another. 4 W. 420. 1 W. & S. 530. To support the action, a contract express or implied must be shown. See 3 Y. 251.

(n) See 7 H. 100, 112.

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## I. OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF ACTIONS BY SUMMONS.

### A. OF THE SUMMONS AND SERVICE.

Actions to be commenced by summons. shall be commenced by a writ of summons, which shall be in the following form, to wit : *[L. S.] The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania : \_\_\_\_\_ county; ss. To the sheriff of said county, greeting: We command you that you summon \_\_\_\_\_, so that he be and appear before our court of \_\_\_\_\_, to be holden at \_\_\_\_\_, in and for said county, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ next, there to answer \_\_\_\_\_, of a plea [setting forth briefly the cause(s) of action or complaint] and have you then and there this writ; Witness \_\_\_\_\_, president, [or as the case may be] judge of our said court, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.*

Cause of action, how to be stated. 2. In all writs of summons issued by virtue of the act relating to the commencement of actions, passed the 13th June 1836, the blank left for the cause of action, in the form prescribed in the 1st section of that act, shall be filled as directed for the corresponding part of writs of *capias ad respondendum*, in the 3d section of the said act; and that all writs of summons issued since the passage of the said act, in the form previously thereto used, shall not be held or deemed defective for want of form according to said writ.

## Actions Personal.

3. A writ of summons shall be executed(*p*) by reading the same in the hearing of the defendant; or by giving him notice of its contents, and by giving him a true and attested copy thereof; or if the defendant cannot conveniently be found, by leaving such copy at his dwelling-house, in the presence of one or more of the adult members of his family; or if the defendant resides in the family of another, with one of the adult members of the family in which he resides.

4. Where any person or persons being residents of this commonwealth shall engage in business in any other county than the one in which he, she, or they shall reside, and not being in the county at the time of the issuing of such writ or process, it shall be lawful for the officer charged with the service thereof to serve any writ of summons, or any other mesne process upon the agent or clerk of any such defendant, at the usual place of business or residence of such agent or clerk, and to have the same effect as if served upon the principal personally.

5. In cases where a trespass or nuisance has been or may be committed on real estate, by non-residents of the county wherein such real estate is situated, it shall be lawful for the sheriff to go beyond his bailiwick, into an adjoining county, for the purpose of serving any process which may be issued out of the court of the proper county, in suits instituted for the recovery of damages, (*q*) or abatement of the nuisance; and such service shall be as good and valid as if the same had been made by the sheriff within his bailiwick.

6. The remedy provided by the 37th section of the act passed the 13th day of June 1836, entitled "An act relating to the commencement of actions," be, and the same is hereby extended to actions by mortgagees for injuries in the nature of waste, that have been or may hereafter be committed to the mortgaged premises; and the sheriff of the proper county or his deputy, shall be authorized to serve the process in any other, although such other shall not be adjoining to the county wherein such real estate is situated.

7. The sheriff or other officer serving any writ of summons, shall in all cases state in his return, the time and manner in which the service thereof was made. (*r*)

### B. OF THE TESTE AND RETURN OF WRITS.

8. Every writ used for the commencement of an action shall bear date on the day of the issuing thereof, and shall be made returnable on the first day of the term next succeeding the time at which it shall be issued. (*s*)

9. Provided, that in the case of a writ of summons, if there shall not be ten days between the issuing thereof and the first day of the term as aforesaid, the writ may be made returnable on the next day preceding the last day of such term, or upon the first day of the second term next after the issuing of the writ. (*t*)

10. In the courts for the city and county of Philadelphia, and county of Allegheny, all writs used for the commencement of actions may be made returnable on the first day of the next term as aforesaid, or on the first Monday of any intermediate month, at the election of the party suing out the writ. (*u*)

### C. OF PROCEEDINGS IN DEFAULT OF APPEARANCE.

11. If the defendant in any writ of summons as aforesaid, shall not appear at the return day thereof, and the officer to whom such writ was directed, shall make return that it was served upon the defendant ten days before the return day aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the plaintiff, having filed his declaration (*v*) to take judgment thereon for default of appearance.

3. Act 13 June 1836, § 2. P. L. 572.  
4. Act 4 May 1852, § 1. P. L. 574.  
5. Act 13 June 1836, § 37. P. L. 579.

6. Act 14 April 1851, § 1. P. L. 612.  
7. Act 13 June 1836, § 38. P. L. 579.  
8. Ibid. § 30.

9. Ibid. § 31.  
10. Ibid. § 32.  
11. Ibid. § 33.

(*p*) This section prescribes four modes of serving a writ of summons. 1. By reading the writ in the hearing of the defendant. 2. By giving the defendant notice of the contents of the writ, and by giving him a true and attested copy of the writ. 3. By leaving a true and attested copy at the defendant's dwelling-house, in the presence of one of the adult members of his family. 4. If the defendant resides in the family of another, by leaving a true and attested copy at the house in which he resides, with one of the adult members of the family in which he resides. 2 M. 42. And the sheriff must state in his return, not only the time, but the mode of service. Ibid. Therefore, a return of "summoned by leaving a copy at place of residence," is insufficient. Ibid. And it must appear that the copy served was "attested" by the officer. Bright. R. 67. So, a service "by leaving a true and attested copy at the counting-room of defendant, with his agent or clerk," was set aside, on motion. 4 Barr 501. But if the officer reads the writ, in the hearing of the defendant, it is sufficient, without leaving a copy. 6 Wh. 66. So a return of "served on defendant by reading and copy" is good. 6 H. 354. And a return of service on the defendant, "by leaving a copy at his boarding-house, in the presence of one of the adult members of the family, and by leaving a copy at the store of the defendant in the presence of his clerk, and by leaving a copy at the dwelling-house of the defendant's father, in the presence of adult members of the family," was held sufficient, although it appeared that the defendant, a few days before the service of the summons, had left the county, and gone on a temporary visit to Europe. Farnum v. Walton, 1 T. & H. Pr. 233. And see 3 Y. 258. A defective service will be set aside by the court, on motion, leaving the writ to stand. 4 Barr 501. See Austin v. Brown, 1 T. & H. Pr. 253. An

appearance, after an ineffectual motion to quash, will cure a defective service. Smith v. Hewson, Sup. Court, April 18 1853. 1 Am. L. R. 441.

(*q*) In such action, the defendant will be answerable, not only for the injury to the real estate, but also for injury done to personal property in the same trespass. 7 H. 384.

(*r*) The sheriff may amend his return of "served" by altering it to "nihil habet." Anspach v. Carr, 1 T. & H. Pr. 233. But every amendment must be on affidavit. 9 Barr 353. 5 W. 235. And if judgment has been entered by default on a false return of "served," the court, upon proof that the defendant, in fact, had no notice, made timely application for relief, and has a defence, will open the judgment. Bencke v. Frick, 1 T. & H. Pr. 765.

(*s*) A summons issued on the return day cannot be made returnable on the same day. 2 M. 213. But a summons may be served on the return day. 2 M. 164. 4 P. L. J. 114.

(*t*) This section does not apply to the district court of Philadelphia, the termination of the terms of which court is not fixed by law. 2 M. 146.

(*u*) Extended to the courts of the 14th judicial district by act 6 June 1839, § 2 P. L. 254.

(*v*) To entitle a plaintiff to judgment by default, he must have filed his declaration within the time prescribed; 8 W. & S. 43: that is, before the return day of the writ. 9 Barr 165. But in the district court of Philadelphia, it is sufficient if the declaration be filed on or before the *quarto die post*. Buckley v. Eastman, 1 T. & H. Pr. 238. Or where the writ is not served ten days before the return day, within fourteen days from the time of service. May v. Sharp, Ibid. 238.

## Actions Personal.

ance, according to the rules established by the court to regulate the practice in this respect. (w)

In case summons be not served ten days before return day.

12. In case such writ shall not be served (x) ten days before the return day thereof, if the defendant therein shall not appear in ten days after the day of service, it shall be lawful for the plaintiff, having filed his declaration, to take judgment thereon, at any subsequent day in term time, for default of appearance, according to the rules established by the court to regulate the practice in this respect.

### D. OF THE SERVICE OF WRITS OF SCIRE FACIAS.

How scire facias to be served.

Proceedings thereon.

13. In every case in which a writ of *scire facias* may by law be issued, it shall be served and returned in the same manner as is herein provided in the case of a summons in a personal action; (y) and judgment for default of appearance may be taken at the same time, and in the same manner, as in the case of a summons as aforesaid, unless it be otherwise especially provided.

### E. OF AMICABLE ACTIONS.

Actions may be entered by agreement.

Effect thereof.

Duty of prothonotary.

Judgment to be entered on confession in writing.

Fees.

Satisfaction to be entered on request of plaintiff.

14. It shall be lawful for any persons, willing to become parties to an amicable action, to enter into an agreement, in writing, for that purpose, either in their proper persons, or by their respective agents or attorneys, and on the production of such agreement to the prothonotary of any court having jurisdiction of the subject matter, he shall enter the same on his docket, and from the time of such entry, the action shall be deemed to be depending, in like manner as if the defendant had appeared to a summons issued against him by the plaintiff.

15. It shall be the duty of the prothonotaries, respectively, on the application of any persons willing to become parties in an amicable suit, to enter the same without the agency of an attorney; (z) and when thereunto required, and on confession in writing, executed in the presence of two or more witnesses, (a) expressing the amount due to the plaintiff, (which confession shall be filed in his office) he shall enter judgment against the defendant for the amount expressed as aforesaid, with stay of execution as may be agreed upon by the parties; and the prothonotary shall receive fifty cents for every such entry, to be paid by the defendant in the suit; and when any suit is ended, the clerk of the court before which it was pending, shall on the request of the plaintiff expressed in writing, enter satisfaction thereon.

### F. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

Service of process on citizens of New York, in Erie and Warren. Service on miners and iron manufacturers.

Agents to notify their principals. Penalty for neglect.

Judgment to be opened on affidavit of defence and want of notice.

Service of process on stage companies and unincorporated joint stock companies.

16. It shall be lawful to serve any summons, rule or notice issuing out of any of the courts of the counties of Erie or Warren, upon any person or persons found at any time in said counties, being a resident or citizen of the state of New York.

17. Hereafter the service of any writ of summons, in any action to be brought within the county of Mercer, (b) upon any clerk, agent or manager of any individual, or of any company engaged in the manufacture of pig-metal or iron, or in mining in said county, shall be deemed a good and legal service upon any such individual or company not residing in said county.

18. It shall be the duty of the clerk or agent served with a summons, pursuant to the first section of this act, to notify his principal within thirty days thereafter; and any failure so to do, shall subject the said agent or clerk to the payment of three times the amount of damages which his said principal may have sustained by reason of such neglect.

19. Where any judgment shall be rendered against a party on process served under the provisions of this act, on the affidavit of the defendants, or any of them, that he or they never had notice that such suit was brought, and verily believes that there is a just defence against said claim, it shall be the duty of the court, or justice of the peace rendering said judgment, to open the same and let the party into a defence.

20. The provisions of the 3d section of the act of assembly approved the 21st day of March 1849, (c) entitled "An act to facilitate the collection of debts against corporations," shall be, and the same are hereby extended to stage companies, and all joint stock companies not incorporated, when the members of said companies do not reside within this commonwealth: *Provided*, That service upon an agent shall be upon the principal agent having charge of the business of said company in the county where any office may be located.

12. Act 13 June 1836, § 34. P. L. 578.

13. Ibid. § 39.

14. Ibid. § 40.

15. Act 21 March 1806, § 8. 4 Sm. 330.

16. Act 6 May 1844, § 7. P. L. 565.

17. Act 10 April 1849, § 1. P. L. 600.

18. Ibid. § 2.

19. Ibid. § 3.

20. Act 15 April 1851, § 24. P. L. 675.

(w) The proper practice is to enter judgment in the office of the prothonotary. *Sheerer v. Adams*, 1 T. & H. Pr. 238.

(x) A summons may be issued within ten days before the return day; 2 M. 147; and in such case, judgment by default may be taken at the expiration of ten days after the service of the writ, and the usual *dies gratiae*, unless an appearance be entered. *Ibid.* A judgment without ten days' service is erroneous; 2 B. 436; 1 D. 154; but not void; 2 W. & S. 449. And an appearance *de bene esse* is sufficient to prevent judgment. 11 S. & R. 84.

(y) This section has not altered the practice of taking judgment on two *nihilis*; 2 Wh. 9, 372; but in such case, to entitle the plaintiff to judgment on the *quarto die post*, the second *scire facias* must have issued ten days before the return day. 3 P. L. J. 72.

(z) Independently of this act, an amicable action might be entered by attorney. 8 S. & R. 567. An agreement to an amicable action, is in effect an appearance by the defendant. 1 P. R. 229.

(a) This act is affirmative, and does not prohibit the entry of judgments according to the practice then existing; and therefore, judgment may be entered by the prothonotary upon the defendant's written order, confessing judgment in an action of debt, and directing judgment to be entered against him, although not executed in the presence of two witnesses. 13 S. & R. 196.

(b) This and the next two succeeding sections are extended to the counties of Armstrong, Indiana, Somerset, Bedford, Clinton and Cambria, by act 22 March 1850; P. L. 257; to Lawrence county, by act 25 March 1850; P. L. 279; and to Clarion county, by act 10 May 1850; P. L. 1048.

(c) This section provides that "process may be served upon any officer, agent, or engineer of such corporations, either personally, or by copy, or by leaving a certified copy at the office, depot or usual place of business of said corporation." See P. L. 216; and *postea* "Corporations," 33.

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## LETTERS OF COMMENDATION.

*Upwards of One Hundred in Number.*

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### From Judges of United States Courts.

*From the Hon. R. C. Grier.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined your Specimen Sheet of a New Edition of Purdon's Digest, to be edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq. The "superadded features," or proposed Improvements and Additions, are of much importance, and will add greatly to the value of *this* edition. So far as your Specimen Sheet exhibits the work, it fulfils the promise of your Advertisement; and, if the work be finished in the same style of type, paper, &c., the volume, as to its mechanical execution, will have few equals and no superiors.

R. C. GRIER.

Philadelphia, Nov. 7, 1853.

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Gentlemen,—I have examined with great satisfaction the Specimen pages which you sent me of the forthcoming "Purdon's Digest," by Mr. Brightly. Its scheme of Arrangement and Reference is excellent, and the execution such as must make it a Model Book of the class. I have occasion to wish every day that some one as assiduous and learned as Mr. Brightly would undertake the same office for the Statutory system of the United States.

J. K. KANE.

Dist. Ct. Room, U. S., Nov. 12, 1853.

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Gentlemen,—After a careful examination of the Specimen Sheet of Brightly's proposed edition of Purdon's Digest, I have no hesitation in saying that it will be the best yet offered to the public. The Arrangement of the Statutes—the Division of them under their appropriate titles, and the ample Notes of Judicial Decisions, will greatly lighten the labours of the profession, and instruct all others who may have occasion to inform themselves of the Laws of the State. It is a work of uncommon merit, and deserves extensive patronage.

THOMAS IRWIN.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 25, 1853.

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J. S. BLACK, JOHN B. GIBSON, GEO. W. WOODWARD.

Philadelphia, 18th Jan., 1853. ELLIS LEWIS, W. H. LOWRIE,

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### From the Governor of the State.

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WM. BIGLER.

Executive Chamber, Harrisburg, Nov. 4, 1853.

*From the Hon. William F. Johnston, late Governor of Pennsylvania.*

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WM. F. JOHNSTON.

Pittsburgh, Nov. 14, 1853.

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Gentlemen,—I have examined with much interest the Specimen Sheet you kindly furnished me of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest. I have always regarded the Plan of this Digest as much superior to any other, in furnishing a ready and convenient access to all the General Laws upon a given subject, under a single and appropriate head. With the Improvements you propose, it can justly be called the Standard Digest of the Laws of the State. The Marginal References, the better Arrangement of the Judicial Decisions, and the very Copious Index you contemplate, will at once remove all possible objections to this admirable work.

State Department, Harrisburg, Nov. 5, 1853.

C. A. BLACK.

## First Judicial District.

PHILADELPHIA CITY AND COUNTY.

*From the Hon. Oswald Thompson, President Judge, and the Hon. Joseph Allison, Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions.*

Gentlemen,—The plan of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, of which you were kind enough to send me some Sheets, appears to be excellent. The arrangement of the Sections of the many Acts of Assembly, in the order of the Subject Matter, instead of placing the several Acts according to their dates, renders this a much more perfect Digest than any preceding edition. The Law upon any subject is readily ascertained, and facility of Reference greatly increased. The Editor has performed his task with great ability, and the work is much improved by the addition of the Notes and References.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 12, 1853.*

OSWALD THOMPSON.

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheets of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest you are about to give to the Public, which I cheerfully recommend for its many excellences and Improvements over former editions of the work. The ample Notes of Judicial Decisions, the minute and careful subdivisions of the Table of Contents, together with the Marginal References, or Digest of each section of the several Acts of Assembly, are but a part of the Improvements, which cannot fail to commend the work to the favourable consideration of the Legal Profession, and to all others who may have occasion to refer to a complete Digest of the Laws of Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH ALLISON.

*Philadelphia, Oct. 30, 1853.*

*From the Hon. George Sharswood, President Judge of the District Court.*

Gentlemen,—I have been so much occupied that it was but lately I had time to examine the Specimen Sheets of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, by Mr. Brightly, which you were good enough to send me. I have no hesitation in saying, after having made such examination, that the proposed changes in the work are real improvements, which will very much increase its value to the profession. If the rest of the work be executed with the same editorial fidelity and typographical beauty and accuracy, as these first sheets, it will leave nothing to be desired.

GEORGE SHARSWOOD.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1853.*

*From the Hon. William M. Meredith.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheets of Mr. Brightly's Edition of Purdon's Digest, which accompanied your note of the 31st October. The New Features which Mr. Brightly has introduced are, in my opinion, decided Improvements upon the plan of former Editions, and the portion of the work submitted to me has been executed with remarkable accuracy and fidelity, and does justice to the established character of the Editor.

W. M. MEREDITH.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 9, 1853.*

*From the Hon. Thomas S. Bell.*

Gentlemen,—I have looked into the Sheets of the forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, under the Editorship of Mr. Brightly, with much satisfaction. Judging from the Specimen of such an extensive work, I do not hesitate to say that the proposed Improvements of Mr. Brightly must add very greatly to the well-deserved and widely-spread reputation of prior Editions. These were found of vast utility to the practising lawyer and the business layman, but the additional features by which the New Edition is to be marked, will vastly increase its merits as a Labour-saving Book. The continuous connexion of the several Statutes relating to one subject, and the Foot Notes of Judicial Decisions in immediate connexion with that portion of the particular Statutes they are intended to illustrate, are happy ideas, and appear to be well executed. It is a fortunate thing for the profession that its ranks contain competent and intelligent gentlemen willing thus to devote their talents and learning for the benefit of their brethren.

THOMAS S. BELL.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 2, 1853.*

*From the Hon. John M. Read.*

Gentlemen,—I have long been of opinion that a Digest of our Acts of Assembly, upon the plan of the Revised Statutes of Massachusetts, would be a work of great utility to the Bar and to the People of Pennsylvania, and might form a proper ground-work for their future revision by the Legislative authority. The Specimen I have received of Mr. Brightly's Digest appears to fulfil as many of these conditions as were in the power of one who could only collate the Laws without possessing any revisory power, and I therefore cordially recommend it to the Profession and to the Community.

*Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1853.*

JOHN M. READ.

*From the Hon. Joel Jones.*

Gentlemen,—Your forthcoming Digest of the Laws of Pennsylvania, judging from the Specimen you sent me, will be a very complete and convenient work, and highly creditable to the learning, good judgment, and industry of the accomplished Editor. I doubt not that it will be favourably received by the Profession and the Public. The price at which you propose to put the volume, considering the amount of editorial labour bestowed upon it, and the excellency of the typographical execution, is unusually moderate. I trust that your enterprise will be liberally rewarded.

JOEL JONES.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 4, 1853.*

*From the Hon. A. V. Parsons.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with considerable care and attention a Specimen Sheet of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq. I consider the work invaluable. The new distinguishing features which have been superadded by the intelligent Editor, I am confident, cannot fail to commend it to the favourable attention of every member of the Profession. The Marginal References to each section, which give its Contents at a glance—the Notes of Judicial Decisions at the foot of the page, and the accuracy with which they have been prepared—the Subdivisions of Titles—and last, but not least, a Comprehensive Index, in connexion with other valuable improvements in the whole plan of the book, in my humble opinion, render the work of great value, not only to the Profession, but to Aldermen, Justices of the Peace, and all Laymen who desire to get a comprehensive knowledge of the Statute Laws of Pennsylvania. It is gratifying to see so much labour bestowed on a Compilation of the Statutes of our State.

A. V. PARSONS.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1853.*

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# ONE HUNDRED LETTERS OF COMMENDATION.

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*From the Hon. John K. Findlay.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheet of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., which you did the kindness to send me. Every one who examines it must perceive the value of the improvements which the learned Editor has made upon former editions. From the Specimen before me he certainly appears to have executed his task with great judgment, care, and research; and has presented to the Profession and the Public the whole body of the General Statute Law of Pennsylvania, and the Construction given to it by the Courts, so admirably and lucidly arranged that reference to any particular Title or Section, and its Judicial Interpretation, can be had in a moment. Its typographical execution, I think, excels that of any former edition, and is highly creditable to the liberality and enterprise of the Publishers.

JOHN K. FINDLAY.

Philadelphia, Nov. 7, 1853.

*From Eli K. Price, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Sheets sent me of the forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest. From these, as well as from the knowledge I have of the great care and industry Mr. Brightly is bestowing on the work, I am well satisfied that the Eighth Edition of Purdon will be a great improvement over all that preceded. The Marginal Abstracts and References to the Statutes, and Judicial Decisions, and a more perfectly Analyzed and Minute Index to the Contents of the volume, cannot but make it much more perfect and useful.

ELI K. PRICE.

Philadelphia, Nov. 3, 1853.

*From William Rawle, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined, with much pleasure and satisfaction, the specimen which you did the favour to send me, of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq. The great merit and value of Mr. Purdon's Digest have been extensively felt and acknowledged, ever since its first appearance, to the present time, not only by the Bench and Bar, but by all those whose pursuits render a knowledge of the Laws of Pennsylvania important to them. During the period of its passage through numerous editions, some defects have been necessarily discovered, which, it appears to me, the new features of your forthcoming edition will satisfactorily supply, and render it all, or nearly all that can be wished for in a Digest. I anticipate for Mr. Brightly's work the success which its merits fully entitle it to.

WILLIAM RAWLE.

Philadelphia, Nov. 7, 1853.

*From St. George T. Campbell, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the sheets of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, you were so kind as to send me. I believe the chief value of such publications to consist in grouping, under appropriate and well digested titles, all the statutes appropriate to each, and to aid professional investigation by references to the judicial decisions by which each law has been expounded or construed. The specimen sent me, seems, in the highest degree, to combine all these qualities; and the ability and patient care of the Editor, assure me that the work will be of the utmost value to the Profession.

Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1853.

ST. GEO. T. CAMPBELL.

*From Samuel H. Perkins, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined, with some care, the specimen pages of your forthcoming (the Eighth) Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you had the kindness to send me, requesting my opinion of the merits of the work, especially in its superadded features. This edition is far superior to any of the preceding. It seems to include all the requisites to make it by far the most complete and convenient guide to the Legislation of our State, that has yet appeared. The Marginal References; the new arrangement of the Notes of Judicial Decisions; the greater fulness of the Table of Contents; the removal of the References to the Acts from the body of the text to the bottom of the page—all combine to facilitate, to a very great degree, the labours of the Practitioner, as well as of the Student. The very clear and distinct typography of the work is by no means one of its least merits; while the accuracy and fulness of the References and Notes will save the profession an amount of time and labour which can hardly be over-estimated. I hope that your enterprise may meet the success it so richly merits.

Philadelphia, Nov. 2, 1853.

SAMUEL H. PERKINS.

*From Henry M. Phillips, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, a few specimen sheets of which I have had the opportunity to examine, contains so many and such decided improvements upon the preceding editions, as will place the legal profession in this State under great obligations to its industrious Editor. While Mr. Brightly has preserved the Analytical Division of the Acts of Assembly, originally belonging to it—which affords facilities and advantages that any other plan is necessarily without—he has, by increasing the Subdivisions of the Titles, by adding explicit Explanatory Marginal Notes, a comprehensive and full Index, as also Collected References to the Pamphlet Laws, and to all the Decisions of the Courts connected with the various subjects, made it a Library in itself for any question arising under a Statute Law of Pennsylvania. The mechanical execution of the work, and its reduction to a convenient and comfortable size, cannot fail to be kindly appreciated. They constitute a very great recommendation to me.

HENRY M. PHILLIPS.

Philadelphia, Nov. 2, 1853.

*From J. A. Phillips, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined some of the sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, and assuming them to be a fair specimen of the work, I must express to you my gratification with its appearance and arrangement; and my conviction, founded on knowledge of the industry, accuracy, and ability of its worthy Editor, is, that it will be all that can be desired, in such a book, and alike valuable to lawyer and layman.

J. A. PHILLIPS.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1853.

*From the Hon. John H. Campbell.*

Gentlemen,—I have perused the Specimen Sheets of Mr. Brightly's proposed Edition of Purdon's Digest, sent to me by you, and take great pleasure in adding my testimony to the facilities to be derived by the Profession by the design or plan of its arrangement. The order in which the Laws are printed, the side or Marginal Notes, the Notes at the bottom of the pages, and the elaborate Analysis of the several Divisions will be appreciated by the Professional reader, and render the book very desirable to him.

JOHN H. CAMPBELL.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1853.

*From E. Spencer Miller, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have looked over the specimen sheets of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly, which you were kind enough to send me. I like the plan extremely. If it is well carried out through the work, it will effect the objects of such a Digest far more satisfactorily than any prior edition has done; and, though I have not had time for minute examination, I see no reason, from the pages before me, to fear any want of accuracy in details. Our Public Acts are now so voluminous, and so widely used, that any one who enables us to refer to them, with speed and certainty, confers a great favour on the Profession, indeed, on the Public. Its real merit, as well as the comparatively cheap price at which it is to be furnished, cannot fail to make the volume a popular one.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1853.

E. SPENCER MILLER.

*From Samuel Hood, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have received the specimen pages of your forthcoming Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest. I had been made acquainted, several months ago, with the general nature of the labours in which the Editor of that edition was then engaged, and the modifications and improvements of former editions contemplated in it. The want of such an improved edition has, I believe, been long generally felt. It appeared to me that the design, as then explained to me, embraced all the features of a perfect Digest, and all that was needed in that department of the law; and that if it could be fully carried out, the author and publishers would confer a greater favour on the profession, and a greater benefit on the citizens of Pennsylvania, than any previous editor, or the original projector of the work had bestowed upon them. A careful perusal of the sheets sent me to-day, convinces me that the task undertaken by Mr. Brightly has been so well executed by him, that it more than accomplishes what might fairly have been expected in a work of such extent and difficulty. The preparation of it demanded much labour, learning, accuracy, and discrimination; and its publication must necessarily involve great expense, care, and responsibility. These have been faithfully and liberally expended; and, therefore, the hope expressed in your Prospectus is a reasonable one, that this Edition of Purdon may become "A Legal Manual in use in every Court and Law-chamber, Counting-house and Dwelling in the State."

Philadelphia, Oct. 28, 1853.

SAMUEL HOOD.

*From Francis Wharton, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the proof-sheets of the forthcoming Edition of Brightly's Purdon, and I have heretofore given to its predecessors careful and thorough study. For purposes both of reference and general study, I cannot but regard an arrangement purely Analytical, such as this, as much preferable to the Chronological System. This advantage of structure has been increased by the industry and fidelity of the present Editor.

FRANCIS WHARTON.

Philadelphia, Oct. 28, 1853.

*From Constant Guillou, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the sheets of Purdon's Digest, which you were kind enough to send me, and I most cheerfully add my voice to the recommendations given by my professional brethren to this forthcoming work. The Marginal Synopsis, economizing much time in searching for any particular Enactment, is a most decided improvement upon prior Editions; and the general arrangement and execution of the work are, in every respect, such as must command the approval of all persons having occasion to use the volume. It is not often that both Publisher and Compiler have been so happy in the execution of their respective departments, as in this instance; and I trust that the result will be as advantageous and gratifying to them, as I know the work will be to their customers.

Philadelphia, Oct. 29, 1853.

GUILLOU.

*From Edward E. Law, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have had the pleasure of examining the specimen of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you sent me for that purpose; and am very confident, that, in its plan and execution, it will meet the decided approbation of the Bar. The whole arrangement is very convenient; and the Index, if completed as fully and carefully as proposed by the learned Editor, will, in the time and labour saved in reference, give this volume particular value.

ED. E. LAW.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1853.

*From M. Russell Thayer, Esquire.*

Dear Sirs,—A critical examination of that portion of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you have sent, has convinced me of its great superiority over all former editions. The new features, added to the former plan, are such as to give it a greatly increased value. Among these, I may mention the accurate Marginal Index, the very full Notes of Judicial Decisions, (conveniently placed at the foot of each page,) the copious References from one Statute to another, and the complete Abstract prefixed to each Title, as improvements entitling the work to special commendation. So greatly improved an Edition of a work so long and well known in Pennsylvania, must, I think, become indispensable, not only to every member of the Bar, but to all who are in any way concerned in the administration of justice, or who have any interest or ambition to know the Laws under which they live.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1853.

M. RUSSELL THAYER.

*From Joseph A. Clay, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the specimen of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly, with great satisfaction. The form of the work, and arrangement of the matter, are great improvements on any preceding Edition, and must add materially to the well-established reputation of the Digest. The Notes appear to me to be of great value and well-selected. Much care and labour have evidently been bestowed by the Editor in their selection, and in the preparation of the work generally, and the Edition will undoubtedly be highly acceptable to the Profession.

Philadelphia, Nov. 3, 1853.

JOSEPH A. CLAY.

*From Charles Gibbons, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the specimen sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly, which you were kind enough to send to me. The Marginal Indices, and the general improvements in the plan of the work, render it, in my opinion, the most convenient, and the most perfect, which has ever been published.

CHARLES GIBBONS.

Philadelphia, Nov. 5, 1853.

# ONE HUNDRED LETTERS OF COMMENDATION.

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*From Edward Hopper, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Having carefully examined the sheets of Mr. Brightly's proposed Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you were pleased to send me, I have no hesitation in expressing my conviction that it is the best Digest of our State Laws that has ever appeared. It is the result of great labour on the part of the learned Editor, Mr. Brightly. The plan is well conceived, and most thoroughly executed. The work embraces not only the State Laws, down to those of the last Session of our Legislature, inclusive, but also the Decisions of our Supreme Court to 7 Harris, and references to Manuscript Cases which have been decided by that Court during the present year, to the middle of October. It also contains many decisions of our Common Pleas and District Court, which have been printed in periodicals, and in Mr. Wharton's valuable edition of Troubat and Haly's Practice. These, with other advantages, render the work almost indispensable to all persons in any way concerned with the administration of the Laws of Pennsylvania. The style in which the book is published, will make it highly convenient and attractive.

Philadelphia, Nov. 7, 1853.

EDWARD HOPPER.

*From Robert B. Knight, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheets you sent me, of your New Edition, the Eighth, of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and am of opinion that the superadded features, distinguishing the present Edition from those that have preceded it, will add greatly to the value and usefulness of that excellent work.

Philadelphia, Nov. 3, 1853.

ROBERT B. KNIGHT.

*From William L. Hirst, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have looked over the Sheets of Mr. Brightly's New Edition of Purdon's Digest with more than ordinary satisfaction. The improvements which distinguish it from the prior Editions of the work are all that skill, talent, industry and research could supply. The New Digest will be found most valuable to the Profession, and will greatly add to the high reputation of the Author.

Philadelphia, Nov. 14, 1853.

W. L. HIRST.

*From Aldermen of the City and County of Philadelphia.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with care, part of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, as revised and edited by Mr. Brightly. The full and complete collection of Laws, clear and copious Index, Marginal References, Syllabus of each Title, and Foot Notes to each page, are unmistakeable evidence of judicious labour bestowed on the work by the Editor, for which he deserves the thanks and commendation of all who by business or necessity are compelled to consult the Laws of Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia, Nov. 3, 1853.

GEORGE ERETY, Alderman.

Gentlemen,—Having carefully and diligently examined the Pages sent me by you, of the EIGHTH EDITION OF PURDON'S DIGEST, EDITED BY F. C. BRIGHTLY, Esq., a member of the Philadelphia Bar, I have no hesitation in saying, that the admirable Index, the Marginal Notes, the References at the foot of each page to the Judicial Decisions, in fact, the whole plan, make the work far superior to the old Editions, and to every other work of the kind. These decided Improvements are not merely an advantage to the Profession, but of incalculable benefit to Business Men, every one of whom should have the Book continually on his table as a Guide.

J. MITCHELL, Alderman.

Philadelphia, Nov. 2, 1853.

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Pages of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest for November, 1853. The execution is excellent, and the general arrangement seems calculated to correct the errors of previous Editions. Heretofore I have experienced most inconvenience from the confused manner of Indexing. By your circular I anticipate every former defect will be remedied in the forthcoming work, which I shall anticipate with eagerness, as comprehending all the improvements "of a great variety of Digests issued in other States" as well as Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia, Oct. 25, 1853.

JOHN A. ELKINTON, Alderman.

## Second Judicial District.

LANCASTER COUNTY.

*From the Hon. H. G. Long, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—In looking over the Specimen Pages which have been forwarded to me, of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, which is now being published by you, I feel pleasure in saying that, justly appreciated as the former Editions were for their great excellence, the New Edition, so far as I can judge from the Sheets before me, will be much enhanced in value, not only by the new arrangements which have been adopted, but generally on account of the New Features which have been introduced, which greatly distinguish this Edition from the others which have gone before it. The Marginal References, the Notes to Judicial Decisions, and the copious Index, are all admirably calculated to facilitate the labours of those who may have occasion to consult this work, and when completed, cannot fail to be a great acquisition to the library of every one who wishes to be acquainted with the laws of this commonwealth.

Lancaster, Oct. 24, 1853.

H. G. LONG.

*From the Hon. Thomas H. Burrows.*

Gentlemen,—I have received and examined the Specimen Sheet of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, by Brightly, which you were kind enough to send. I rejoice that this good old form of Digest is not only to be kept up, but that it is about to receive so many valuable improvements. If the whole work be completed in conformity with the Specimen, as I have no doubt it will be, those who prefer the arrangement of our Statutes by Titles, or the Alphabetical Arrangement, of whom I am one, will, it seems to me, have a book which must meet all their wishes.

THOS. H. BURROWS.

Lancaster, Oct. 26, 1853.

## Third Judicial District.

NORTHAMPTON AND LEHIGH COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Washington M: Cartney, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—From an examination of a portion of Brightly's Edition of the Digest of the Laws of Pennsylvania, I am free to say that the method is happy, the execution able, and the book is now a

Digest, and presents in a luminous conspexus each subject of the Law with its Judicial Construction, and the date of its enactment. So complete is the Analysis that the Profession and the Politician can have little more to desire or suggest in regard to the arrangement of the general Legislation of our Commonwealth.

WASH'N M'CARTNEY.

Easton, Nov. 2, 1853.

*From the Hon. A. E. Brown.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Sheets of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, by Brightly, which you were kind enough to send me. I consider the plan a very good one, and well calculated to render a reference to our now cumbrous body of Legislative enactments comparatively easy. The well-deserved reputation of the Editor for industry and accuracy, will commend it to the Profession as a book on which they can safely rely. The mechanical execution appears to be very superior, and its merits will secure it a very general circulation.

A. E. BROWN.

Easton, Oct. 31, 1853.

*From the Hon. H. D. Maxwell.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Pages of your forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, from 1700 to 1853, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and can cordially recommend it to the Profession. The former Editions were properly considered excellent in plan and arrangement. The improvements now made would seem to perfect the work, adding all that can be desired.

H. D. MAXWELL.

Easton, Oct. 31, 1853.

*From the Hon. Samuel A. Bridges.*

Gentlemen,—Having examined a few "Specimen Pages" of a "New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq.," and soon to be published by you, I do not hesitate to say that they receive, as they merit, my most cordial approbation. The arrangement is decidedly fortunate, and far superior to the arrangement observed in former Editions. The Table of Contents is more copious, and the Marginal References, I consider, an invaluable improvement. Besides, a reference to Acts of Assembly and Judicial Decisions upon them, on each page, will greatly tend to facilitate its use, inasmuch as the Acts, the Dates of their Passage, and Decisions, will be presented to the view of the reader at once. In former Editions, we have to turn to the end of the Acts upon each subject, and look for Decisions there. I might enumerate other excellent qualities which the book bids fair to possess, but it is unnecessary. Suffice it to say that the work, when finished, cannot fail to be one of great merit, far superior to all others of the kind, and which ought to be found in the hands of every business man in the State.

SAMUEL A. BRIDGES.

Allentown, Oct. 27, 1853.

*From Robert E. Wright, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with great care the Sheets of Mr. Brightly's New Edition of "Purdon's Digest" which you were kind enough to send to me, and am pleased to be able to say that, though I expected a great deal from Mr. B., the result of his labours far exceeds my most sanguine expectations. You do not claim too much for it in your circular, for no one can deny but that it possesses all the excellencies, without any of the objectionable features, to be found in other similar works. The comprehensive Marginal Index, the minute, accurate, and practical subdivision of the Titles, the arrangement of the References, and the Judicial Decisions, and the size and beauty of the Page, free as it is from every thing that might disfigure it or annoy the reader; all combine to make it by far the most perfect Digest of Statutes now in print. The book must succeed, for no element of success is wanting.

Allentown, October 27, 1853.

R. E. WRIGHT.

#### Fourth Judicial District.

TIOGA, POTTER, M'KEAN, AND ELK COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. R. G. White, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—Accompanying your letter of the 20th inst., I have received Specimen Sheets of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, now in the press. Judging from an examination of these Sheets, the work is a decided improvement on the Seventh Edition, and merits, as it will no doubt receive, the patronage of the public.

R. G. WHITE.

Wellsborough, Oct. 25, 1853.

*From the Hon. Byron D. Hamlin.*

Gentlemen,—I have received the Copy sent me of the Specimen Sheets of Purdon's Digest, by Mr. Brightly, intended to contain all the enactments of a public nature of the Legislature of our State now in force, embracing those passed at its last Session. The character of the former Editions of this work is well known by every lawyer and man of business in the Commonwealth. This Edition, judging from the portion of it now before me, contains all the excellencies of the former ones, besides embracing many valuable additions. To find arranged under one head, within a narrow compass, all the Statutes relating to the subject under examination, with a synoptical reference to the decisions of the Courts upon each branch of the text, on the same page, is a convenience which every lawyer can well appreciate. I trust its increased sale may be measured only by the improvements it presents.

BYRON D. HAMLIN.

*From N. W. Goodrich, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have just made a minute examination of the Sheets of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and I am much pleased with the improvements which have been made in this Edition. They are improvements which cannot fail to meet with the approbation of all who have occasion to use a Digest, and whose interest has been thus happily facilitated. The General Statutes of Pennsylvania have become so numerous that the saving of time to the Profession in consulting them has become an important desideratum in the arrangement of a Digest. The Marginal References, the full and concise Notes of Judicial Decisions at the foot of each page, the Subdivisions of Titles, as well as a decided improvement in the Index, are features which cannot fail to meet with the universal commendation of the Profession. The verification of the References in the Index, and in the Marginal Notes, is a very important consideration. It is very annoying to find a reference to a report, and after a long research, discover that, through a mistake in a figure, you have been sent on a "wild goose chase" after the wrong book. These evils, I am pleased to find, you have remedied.

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# ONE HUNDRED LETTERS OF COMMENDATION.

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The reduction in size is an improvement which will add much to the convenience of handling it. The high reputation of Mr. Brightly as a compiler has been fully sustained in this work, and I trust the improvements made will meet with that return to which they are so justly entitled.

Smethport, Oct. 31, 1853.

N. W. GOODRICH.

## Fifth Judicial District.

### ALLEGHENY COUNTY.

*From the Hon. William B. M'Clure, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, &c.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully inspected the Sheets you sent me of Mr. Brightly's Edition of Purdon's Digest. It introduces new features and new aids to the Student which I have never seen in any Digest, in an order which is admirable. I cannot imagine a plan for a Digest more perfect, or an execution more complete. Independent of its other new and prominent features of merit, the *Index alone*, so copious, exhaustive, and minute, affording such uncommon ease, celerity, and certainty of search, strongly commends the Work to all who value time.

WILLIAM B. M'CLURE.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 29, 1853.

*From the Hon. P. C. Shannon, President Judge, and the Hon. Henry W. Williams, Associate Judge, of the District Court.*

Gentlemen,—Having carefully examined the Specimen Pages, which you were kind enough to send me, of Mr. Brightly's Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, I take pleasure in stating that the arrangement is admirable, and the new features introduced into this Edition such as must commend the work to the highest favour of the Profession. What you claim for this New Edition in your circular appears to me to be fully warranted. I entertain no doubt of the complete success of your undertaking.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 26, 1853.

P. C. SHANNON.

Gentlemen,—Your forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly, judging from the Specimen Sheets now before me, is, in its plan and execution, much superior to any former Edition of that work. The *superadded* features which distinguish it, its Marginal References, Foot Notes, Analytical Contents, Digested Syllabus, &c., are decided improvements, and greatly enhance its value. For these improvements, by means of which much time and labour will be saved in the use of the work, Mr. Brightly deserves, and, I have no doubt, will receive, the thanks of the Profession.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 28, 1853.

HENRY W. WILLIAMS.

*From the Hon. H. Hepburn.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Sheets you sent me of your proposed Edition of "Purdon's Digest," and have pleasure in saying that in my opinion it is a Work of great merit—its arrangement is excellent, and more convenient than any other Edition of our Laws which has come under my notice. The full and accurate Notes of Judicial Interpretation annexed to each Section, adds greatly to the usefulness of the work, and renders it doubly valuable to the Profession.

H. HEPBURN.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 27, 1853.

*From the Hon. C. Darragh.*

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge the favour of receiving from you the Specimen Sheets of a new Edition (the Eighth) of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and I can say for myself, and I think I can add, that the Profession will be greatly indebted to Mr. Brightly and your house for getting up and publishing so useful, necessary, and valuable a Book. In my judgment, the plan adopted for the Digest is better than any heretofore published. It will be a useful Book to all our Citizens; for the manner and plan of the Digest is such that any one can readily find what he may want. Such a work as Mr. Brightly's Edition of Purdon is needed, and I hope to see it soon published and for sale.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 25, 1853.

C. DARRAGH.

*From the Hon. Charles Shaler.*

Gentlemen,—I have perused, with great satisfaction, the Specimen you forwarded to me of a New Edition of the Laws of Pennsylvania, now in the course of publication by you under the editorship of F. C. Brightly, Esq. The plan of the work is one which must meet the universal approval of the Profession, and if the execution is carried out so as to conform to the Specimen, it will be a lasting monument of the enterprise and good taste of the publishers. I wish you every success in the completion of your project.

CHARLES SHALER.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 25, 1853.

## Sixth Judicial District.

### ERIE, CRAWFORD, AND WARREN COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. John Galbraith, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined, with some degree of care as well as interest, the Sheets forwarded to me of the proposed Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by Mr. Brightly, and take pleasure in saying that I think it promises many important improvements upon the former Editions, and if executed throughout according to the Specimen, will furnish a hand-book of vast convenience and advantage to the Profession and to the Public.

JOHN GALBRAITH.

Erie, Oct. 24, 1853.

*From James D. Dunlap, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the Sheets you sent me of the Eighth Edition, revised, &c., of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and I have no hesitation in saying that it is *far superior to any other Edition of Purdon ever published*. Mr. Brightly has exhibited industry and learning in this undertaking, and the typography, and general execution of the work, are highly creditable to the publishers. Members of the Legal Profession, Clerks of Courts, Registers and Recorders, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, and all business men, who may desire a knowledge of the Statute Laws of our Commonwealth, will find it a most invaluable work. It ought to be extensively diffused through the State, and wherever it may be necessary for our Statutes to be known; and the low price at which it is offered for sale, will enable persons generally to procure a copy.

JAMES D. DUNLAP.

Erie, Nov. 9, 1853.

*From the Hon. John W. Howe.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully looked through the printed Sheets received from you as a Specimen of what Mr. Brightly's Edition of Purdon's Digest is to be. With the valuable improvements proposed to be made upon former Editions of that Book, I shall consider it a perfect Digest of the General Laws of this Commonwealth, and such a one as will sufficiently commend itself to the Bench, the Bar, and the Public generally.

JOHN W. HOWE.

Meadville, Nov. 2, 1853.

*From the Hon. Gaylord Church.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined your specimen pages of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, and am very much pleased with the many improvements over former Editions. Digests, under Alphabetical heads, are by far the most useful in Practice; and the manner here adopted by Mr. Brightly, of presenting the References, as well as the compactness of your work, and the unusually low price at which it is offered, entitle both Editor and Publishers to the thanks of the Profession, and all others desiring ready access to the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

GAYLORD CHURCH.

Meadville, Nov. 12, 1853.

### Seventh Judicial District.

BUCKS AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Daniel M. Smyser, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—Your note of 20th Oct., with Specimen Sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, came to hand during my absence from home and had been mislaid, or they should have received earlier attention. I consider the work, with the superadded features, to be superior in arrangement and convenience to any one of a similar character and design now extant. It seems to me to combine, very happily, the peculiar and distinguishing excellencies of the old Purdon and of Dunlop's Digest, and thus furnishes what I have long considered a desideratum to the Profession. I sincerely hope you may meet with all the encouragement and success so useful a work pre-eminently deserves. Indeed, I would say, your success is already assured; for "Brightly's Purdon" must of necessity become the *vade mecum* of every Pennsylvania lawyer.

DANIEL M. SMYSER.

Norristown, Nov. 14, 1853.

*From C. E. DuBois, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the Specimen Sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, compiled by Mr. Brightly. The arrangement of it is, in my opinion, decidedly the most perfect of any of the Digests of our Statute Laws which have been presented to the Profession.

Doylesstown, Oct. 26, 1853.

C. E. DUBOIS.

### Eighth Judicial District.

NORTHUMBERLAND, LYCOMING, CENTRE, AND CLINTON COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Alexander Jordan, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined a Specimen Sheet of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and have no hesitation in recommending it as greatly superior to any former Edition in several particulars:—1. In the Marginal References to each Section. 2. In the copiousness of the Notes of Judicial Decisions. 3. In their arrangement, by placing them at the foot of each page, instead of the end of each subject. 4. In the arrangement of the References to Acts of Assembly. 5. In the comprehensiveness of the Index. 6. In the increase of matter, and decrease of bulk. It appears to me to be just such an Index as is now needed by the Legal Profession. The reduction in price is certainly one of its merits.

A. JORDAN.

Sunbury, Oct. 21, 1853.

*From the Hon. James T. Hale.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheets of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you are about publishing, and am decidedly of opinion that it is the best Edition, in all respects, of that indispensable work that has ever been offered to the Public. The arrangement of Mr. Purdon in placing all the Acts of Assembly, relating to one subject, together, so that all legislation respecting it may be seen without going through the Book, is, in my opinion, much the most convenient and satisfactory, and when to this is added the admirable Index of Mr. Brightly, his full Notes of Judicial Decisions, and his improvements of arrangement and reference, I do not see how it could be improved. It will be without a doubt a most useful and popular Book.

JAMES T. HALE.

Bellefonte, Oct. 31, 1853.

*From the Hon. James Pollock.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined carefully the Specimen Sheets of Mr. Brightly's Edition of "Purdon's Digest," now in course of publication by you. The publication of *just such a Digest* has long been desired by the Profession, and must receive their cordial approbation. In my opinion, the plan of the work, and its General Arrangement, are superior to any Digest now before the Public. The Marginal References, the Notes of Judicial Decisions at the foot of the page, the References to the Acts, the Analysis of each Division, the Index, and all the superadded features, distinguish the present Edition, and are all valuable and important improvements. The execution is admirable, and reflects much credit upon the publishers.

JAS. POLLOCK.

Milton, Nov. 10, 1853.

*From Robert Fleming, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully and with much satisfaction examined your Specimen Sheets of Mr. Brightly's proposed edition of Purdon's Digest. If the entire work shall equal this Specimen, it will certainly greatly excel all other publications of our Statutes, in arrangement, the full and convenient References, the great convenience of Marginal Notes, &c., &c. This specimen of the paper, and the execution of the mechanical work is admirable.

ROBT. FLEMING.

Williamsport, Oct. 28, 1853.

# ONE HUNDRED LETTERS OF COMMENDATION.

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*From C. W. Scates, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Yours of the 29th ult., with the Specimen Sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest was duly received. You and Mr. Brightly deserve the thanks of every man in or out of the Profession who shall hereafter have occasion to examine the Statute Law of Pennsylvania. The pains-taking industry which Mr. Brightly has bestowed upon this Edition, will soon save, to every one who shall use it, in place of any previous Digest of our Laws, more than five dollars worth of time and labour. I do not see in what particular it could be improved.

C. W. SCATES.

Williamsport, Nov. 3, 1853.

*From Adolphus D. Wilson, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the 32 pages of Brightly's proposed Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, which I received from you by this morning's mail. I take great pleasure in contributing my humble approval of the whole plan of the work. The Notes and References, and the Analyses of Divisions, &c., far surpass in convenience the former Digests of the Statute Laws of Pennsylvania. The very moderate price fixed by you for this valuable work, merits the approval of the Legal Profession, and is worthy of imitation by your brethren engaged in the selling and publishing of Law Books.

Williamsport, Oct. 27, 1853.

ADOLPHUS D. WILSON.

*From J. W. Quiggle, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with great pleasure your forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, compiled by F. C. Brightly, Esq., which you were pleased to send me. The Additions which have been made to the late Purdon, render this decidedly superior to any of the former Digests of the Laws of Pennsylvania. The comprehensiveness of the Index to the Laws, and, for the first time, to the Constitution of the United States and of this State, gives it, of itself, a preference over any other heretofore published. Every new feature in it must and will command the approval of every Lawyer who shall examine it; while none of the characteristics of the Old Edition, which so much commended it to the public favour, have been lost or omitted.

Lock Haven, Nov. 1, 1853.

J. W. QUIGGLE.

## Ninth Judicial District.

CUMBERLAND, PERRY, AND JUNIATA COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. James H. Graham, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with some care the Specimen which you sent me of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq. The plan of this Edition I consider a very decided improvement upon any similar Digest now extant. The mode adopted by Mr. Brightly of presenting all the Acts on the same subject in a continuous connexion, with References to the Statutes at the foot of the page, and thus preserving the continuity of the subject without interruption, is a very desirable improvement upon the plan of Digesting hitherto practised: this, combined with full References to Judicial Decisions at the foot of each page, a Comprehensive Analytical Index, and the reduced price at which the Digest is offered, will render it such an acquisition to the Legal Profession as few will consent to dispense with, who may have an opportunity of examining its merits.

Carlisle, October 22, 1853.

J. H. GRAHAM.

*From the Hon. J. Ellis Bonham.*

Gentlemen,—The Specimen Sheets you forwarded me of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you are about to publish, I have examined, and am free to say that the New Work will be a most valuable acquisition to the Profession. The arrangement is indeed well calculated to lessen the labours of every Lawyer and Judge, having Marginal References, Notes of Judicial Decisions, and a clear and easily-understood Analysis of the Titles and Subdivisions of each Title, to the several Statutes. Its Enlarged and Copious Index is a most decided improvement on all previous publications of this character in Pennsylvania. Mr. Brightly, the accomplished and indefatigable Editor, will receive great credit for the plan, execution, and careful and accurate details with which the New Digest is presented to the public.

J. ELLIS BONHAM.

Carlisle, Oct. 28, 1853.

## Tenth Judicial District.

WESTMORELAND, INDIANA, AND ARMSTRONG COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. J. M. Burrell, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheet of your New Edition, the Eighth, of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly. As all Professional gentlemen must have a Digest, it is important to them that the Statutes should be well arranged under proper heads, and that there be a full and reliable Index to the whole. Your New Edition seems to promise these requisites; and the changes from the order of the old editions, as to References to Judicial Decisions and Statutes, are decided improvements. I think this Edition, if completed as proposed, will give us the best Digest yet issued, and that it will receive the approval of the Profession.

J. M. BURRELL.

Greensburg, Nov. 8, 1853.

*From the Hon. Joseph Buffington.*

Gentlemen,—I received, a few days ago, some Sheets of a New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., which you are about to publish. I have examined them with some care, and am much pleased with what I believe to be decided improvements upon former editions. The brief Reference to the Decisions of the Courts at the foot of the page, in which a construction has been given to the respective Sections, is a most valuable improvement. The Reference to the Subject Matter at the beginning of each General Head, and also at the Margin of the Section, together with the Reference at the foot of the page to the Acts themselves, embrace every thing necessary to lead the inquiring mind to a full view of the Statutory Law on every subject. If the Index corresponds with your circular, of which I have no doubt, from the high character of the Editor, the Profession owes Mr. Brightly a deep debt of gratitude for his care and diligence, by which their professional labours are so much abridged.

JOS. BUFFINGTON.

Kittanning, Nov. 7, 1853.

*From J. Alexander Fulton, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Purdon's Digest has always been a favourite with the Profession; and from a somewhat hasty perusal of the Specimen Sheets, which you had the kindness to send me, I am satisfied the present edition is greatly superior to any preceding one. With a faithful Text, clear and concise Notes, comprehensive Contents, convenient Arrangement, and, what is of no minor importance, in a work of daily reference especially, with a full, minute, and satisfactory Index, I have no doubt it will be received with great favour, and highly appreciated, by an intelligent Profession.

*Kittanning, Nov. 12, 1853.*

J. ALEXANDER FULTON.

*From Wm. A. Stokes, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—In accordance with your request, I have examined the Sheets sent to me of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, about to be published, and I have no doubt that if the work is completed as commenced, the Profession throughout the State will recognise the very valuable aid it will doubtless afford to those who are concerned in the administration of the law. To meet the ordinary requirements of practice one should be able to find with facility all the Statutes in force on any particular subject, their dates to trace the history of Legislation, and the authorities to show their judicial construction. In your work the ample Index, aided by the Alphabetical arrangement of the Text, enables the Practitioner instantly to turn to the subject of his inquiry, and at a glance to find, by aid of the Marginal References, the Dates of the Acts, and the Authorities quoted—all that any abridgment can possibly present. It seems to me that no Lawyer who regards safety and convenience in his practice, will willingly dispense with this much-improved Edition of an old and familiar hand-book.

*Greensburg, Nov. 13, 1853.*

WM. A. STOKES.

### Eleventh Judicial District.

LUZERNE, WYOMING, MONTOUR, AND COLUMBIA COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Luther Kidder.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the specimen sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly; and it is doing no injustice to the able Editors of former Editions of this work, to say that the present one exhibits a most decided and practical improvement. The plan adopted, the arrangement of Titles, Marginal References, Dates of Acts, and Notes of Judicial Decisions, are all so simple and condensed, as to leave but little chance of future improvement. The mechanical execution of the work deserves the highest praise, and the paper is of superior quality. If the complete work, together with the binding, shall correspond with the specimen sheets before me, I predict a rapid and extensive sale of the present Edition. The low price at which it is offered, will be found both a matter of policy and profit, and will enable the Lawyer, Magistrate, and Private Citizen, to possess an admirable Digest of the great System of Statute Law, (at a cheap rate,) by which the people of Pennsylvania are governed.

LUTHER KIDDER.

*Wilkesbarre, Oct. 26, 1853.*

*From the Hon. Joshua W. Comly.*

Gentlemen,—The Sheets of the "Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest" sent me, have been carefully examined, and I am much pleased with the plan, arrangement, and execution. I think the usefulness of the Digest has been greatly increased by the judicious labours of Mr. Brightly, and that this Edition will not be long in use before its superior merits will be appreciated and acknowledged by the Profession.

JOSHUA W. COMLY.

*Danville, Oct. 28, 1853.*

*From the Hon. Henry M. Fuller.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the specimen sheet you were kind enough to send me, of Mr. Brightly's proposed Edition of Purdon's Digest, and am much pleased with it. The Marginal References, Foot Notes to Judicial Decisions, Analysis and Digested Syllabus, are all great improvements. For this work, Mr. Brightly deserves, and I hope will receive, the substantial approbation of the Profession.

*Wilkesbarre, Oct. 27, 1853.*

HENRY M. FULLER.

*From E. L. Dana, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with much pleasure the sheets enclosed to me, of Mr. Brightly's New Edition of Purdon's Digest, now in course of publication. Notwithstanding the great merit of former Editions of this work, attained through frequent revision, and the suggestions of many years, there were still defects, both in arrangement and in execution, now rendered abundantly apparent, by an examination of the new features, which so favourably distinguish the present Edition from all its predecessors. The complete Analytical view of every subject of Statutory Law, presented in continuous connexion, its examination facilitated by full Marginal References, and the Notes of Judicial Decisions, with the References to the Acts of Assembly, arranged at the foot of each page, combine the advantages of a Commentary with those of a Digest, and are, in every view, improvements of undoubted value. With such a Manual of Law, introduced as generally as its merits and reduced price deserve, there will be additional reason in the maxim, "Ignorantia juris non excusat." E. L. DANA.

*Wilkesbarre, Oct. 27, 1853.*

*From William M. Piatt, Esquire.*

Dear Sirs,—I have examined, with some degree of care, the specimen pages of your forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and, in my judgment, the arrangement and execution of the work are good. The manner in which the Statutes are arranged, the Marginal and Foot Notes, Print, as well as the other improvements of the work, will prove to be an advantage to the Profession, and will, no doubt, be evidenced in the ready sale of this valuable book.

*Tunkhannock, Nov. 1, 1853.*

WM. M. PIATT.

*From Elhanan Smith, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have taken much pleasure in submitting to the consideration of the Members of the Wyoming Bar, the specimen sheets of your New Edition of Purdon, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., who unanimously express their high opinion of it, and that it is so admirably arranged as to distinguish it from any work of the kind—rendering it to a Pennsylvania Lawyer more desirable than any other Digest. The very low price for which such a work is offered, will enable every one to place it in

his Library. The Index, the order in which the Statutes are arranged, together with the Marginal Notes, are so plainly and fully set forth, as to remove all objections heretofore existing in a work of that kind.

ELHANAN SMITH.

Tunkhannock, Nov. 7, 1853.

### Twelfth Judicial District.

DAUPHIN AND LEBANON COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. John J. Pearson, President Judge.*

Dear Sirs,—I have carefully examined the sheets of Brightly's proposed edition of Purdon's Digest, which were forwarded to me, and am much pleased with the plan and arrangement of the work, and the style of its execution, so far as completed. To judge from the sample before me, the changes projected are very valuable improvements on all former publications of like character; and the volume, when perfected, will be of great benefit, not only to the Legal Profession, but to every man engaged in active business. The learned Author deserves the commendation of every one who is called on to examine our voluminous Statutes, for the care and perspicuity with which they are preserved.

Harrisburg, Oct. 22, 1853.

JOHN J. PEARSON.

*From John A. Fisher, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the sheets you forwarded to me, of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by Frederick C. Brightly, Esq. If the expression of an opinion by me, in favour of the plan and execution of the work, could add any weight to the testimonial furnished you by the Judges of the Supreme Court of this State, it would be most cheerfully given. And although I am sensible that I can add nothing to the value of their recommendation and approval, I cannot refrain from entertaining, as well as expressing the opinion, that Mr. Brightly's proposed work will furnish the Legal Profession and the community with a very valuable and convenient Manual of the Statute Laws of this State, and the Decisions of our Courts, applicable thereto; and that the same will be found to be exceedingly useful in every Court, Law-chamber, Counting-house, and Dwelling in the State, as well as in its Legislative Halls and Public Offices. I will thank you to consider me as a subscriber, and to forward one copy to my address, as soon as the work is published and ready for delivery.

Harrisburg, Nov. 4, 1853.

JOHN A. FISHER.

*From D. Fleming, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Having examined your specimen sheets of Mr. Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon, it gives me pleasure to say that, in my judgment, it is admirable, both in plan and execution. The Analytical Subdivisions under each general head, as well as the Marginal or Foot Notes, and other new features, are highly important improvements, to say nothing of your laudable and successful efforts to get the matter into a convenient-sized volume, at a very reasonable price. The Publishers, as well as the Editor, merit, and will doubtless receive, both the thanks and the patronage of the Public—especially of the Profession.

D. FLEMING.

Harrisburg, Oct. 27, 1853.

### Thirteenth Judicial District.

BRADFORD, SUSQUEHANNA, AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. William Jessup.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with care, the sheets of Mr. Brightly's New and Improved Edition of Purdon's Digest, which were sent to me. If the whole work be as well executed as the specimen, it will be found not only useful to the Profession, but be admirably adapted to the wants of Public Officers and Justices of the Peace throughout the State. The plan of the work is a very great improvement upon previous Editions, and is greatly in advance of any other Digest of our Statutes. Mr. Brightly and yourselves will receive the gratitude of the Profession, for the manner in which the contents of a book, so large and voluminous, have been rendered so easily accessible.

WM. JESSUP.

Montrose, Oct. 28, 1853.

*From John C. Adams, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined a specimen sheet of Mr. Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, and am very much pleased with its arrangement. The readiness with which Sections of Statutes may be found, by reference to the Marginal Notes, with the arrangement of References to Judicial Decisions, and the Analysis, I regard as new features, which will very much subserve the convenience of the Profession. I think it must supersede any others now in use.

J. C. ADAMS.

Towanda, Oct. 25, 1853.

*From Ulysses Mercur, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have looked through the specimen pages of the forthcoming Edition of Brightly's Purdon, which you sent me. The peculiar characteristics of this from former Editions, are, in my judgment, highly valuable; and cannot, I conceive, fail to secure the approbation of the Profession generally.

ULYSSES MERCUR.

Towanda, Nov. 12, 1853.

*From Benjamin S. Bentley and L. F. Fitch, Esquires.*

Gentlemen,—We have been examining, with some attention, specimen sheets of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, about to be issued from your press. We need only say, that we are very much pleased with it, and consider it a great improvement, in almost every respect, upon every Digest heretofore published in this State; and is just what every Lawyer, Justice of the Peace, and other Civil Officer, needs—and we may add, every other Business Man. We wish you to send us a copy by Express, as soon as they are ready for delivery; and there is no book that we shall wait to receive more anxiously.

BENTLEY &amp; FITCH.

Montrose, Nov. 1, 1853.

*From the Hon. J. Richter Jones.*

Gentlemen,—I received, a few days ago, a specimen of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest, edited by Mr. Brightly. The recent Editions of Purdon have not been satisfactory, to me, at least, and I think to many of the Profession. The Laws relating to the same subject-matter, have been too scattered in different places, to be found easily and with certainty. Dunlop's Digest is obnoxious, for the same objection, in a still greater degree. On more than one occasion, I have gone to the old Purdon of 1824, and connected it with the subsequent Acts of Assembly, in order to be perfectly confident on particular points of Legislation. Your New Edition, on the plan of Mr. Brightly's prospectus, will, I think, afford the Professional man increased facilities; and it will enable non-professional men, Justices of the Peace, and others, to consult their favourite Law-book, without being always in error.

*Eaglesmere, Nov. 5, 1853.*

J. RICHTER JONES.

#### Fourteenth Judicial District.

FAYETTE, WASHINGTON, AND GREENE COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Samuel A. Gilmore, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the sheets of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you are now publishing. I think the new features your Edition has introduced, will render the work nearly perfect. If the reformation promised in the Index, should correspond with the other improvements, it will be much the most perfect work of the kind which has yet been published. I prefer the Analytical to the Chronological arrangement. But Mr. Brightly's superior Index, Marginal References, and Foot-Notes to the Judicial Decisions, give his work the preference. This defect in other Editions has now been supplied in a way which, I think, will meet with the approbation of the Public,

*Uniontown, Oct. 25, 1853.*

SAMUEL A. GILMORE.

*From R. P. Flenniken, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Sheets you sent me of Mr. Brightly's proposed Edition of Purdon's Digest, and do not hesitate to give to the plan and arrangement of the work my full approbation. His Analytical arrangement of the Laws is admirable, as well as the Marginal and Foot Notes. It is such a work as the Profession, in my opinion, will highly approve, and may safely rely upon its own merits for general diffusion and circulation.

R. P. FLENNIKEN.

*Uniontown, Nov. 7, 1853.*

#### Fifteenth Judicial District.

CHESTER AND DELAWARE COUNTIES.

*From Joseph J. Lewis, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with care the Specimen Sheets which you have sent me of Mr. Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, and, so far as I can judge, it will supply the Profession and the Public with a work much needed. It appears to be a decided improvement, in many respects upon the preceding editions, and to leave little to be desired either in plan or execution. There is no book of the kind extant superior to it; and I have no doubt that it will be highly appreciated by the Bench and the Bar of Pennsylvania. Mr. Brightly, by his successful effort to render complete, a work indispensable to the Legal Practitioner, has well paid the debt which every lawyer owes his profession. I hope that he will carry out his plan of continuing the Digest by Supplementary Additions of such Statutes as future legislation may make, and thus relieve us of the necessity of purchasing, as we have been accustomed to do, much of the same matter anew, every few years.

*West Chester, Oct. 24, 1853.*

JOSEPH J. LEWIS.

*From William Darlington, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Having examined the pages of Mr. Brightly's forthcoming Digest, which you were so obliging as to send me, I take great pleasure in saying that in my judgment it is superior to any work of the kind heretofore published in this State; while the Alphabetical arrangement, which I have always esteemed more convenient than the Chronological, is retained, the Marginal References, and the Copious Notes of Judicial Decisions, impart to this work a very valuable property of Mr. Dunlop's excellent Digest. The typographical execution cannot well be excelled; and, altogether, it is a work which must find favour with the Profession and the Public. We should all be gratified that such a work has fallen into such able hands.

WM. DARLINGTON.

*West Chester, Oct. 25, 1853.*

*From U. V. Pennypacker, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Sheet of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you were pleased to send me by to-day's mail. Judging from the pages before me, the publication of the book must enhance the well-earned reputation of F. C. Brightly, Esq., the Editor, as a careful and accurate compiler. The plan of the work is excellent; greatly superior to its predecessors. The superadded features, embracing the Index, Marginal References, and Foot Notes of Judicial Decisions, will facilitate the labour of the Practitioner, and commend the work, in my judgment, to the hearty approval of the Profession generally. With many thanks to Mr. Brightly for the substantive improvements his industry and sagacity has introduced with the forthcoming Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest.

U. V. PENNYPACKER.

*West Chester, Oct. 25, 1853.*

#### Sixteenth Judicial District.

FRANKLIN, BEDFORD, SOMERSET, AND FULTON COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. George Chambers.*

Gentlemen,—Much as I value the last Edition of Purdon's Digest, with the Index to it, prepared by Mr. Brightly, yet I think it will be much improved by the Edition now proposed to be published by you, a Specimen of which I have received and examined. The order in which the Acts are printed, and the very full Notes accompanying them, with their arrangement, and the Analysis of the Divisions, are new features credible to the judgment, industry and ability of Mr. Brightly, and which must make the work highly acceptable to all who may have occasion to use it.

GEORGE CHAMBERS.

*Chambersburg, Oct. 29, 1853.*

*From John Cessna, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined your Specimen Sheets of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and have been highly gratified with the evidence of improvement which they contain. Mr. Brightly has carefully avoided all the errors of former editions, and, at the same time, has retained all of their advantages. The Marginal References—Notes of Judicial Decisions—the extent and arrangement of the Index—the Chronological and Alphabetical arrangement of the whole work—certainly render it superior to any one of the many excellent Digests now in use in our State.

Bedford, Oct. 31, 1853.

JOHN CESSNA.

### Seventeenth Judicial District.

BEAVER, BUTLER, AND LAWRENCE COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Daniel Agnew, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Sheets sent me of Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, and am glad to have it in my power to recommend it as a work deserving the thanks of the Bench and the Bar. The new features added by Mr. Brightly will improve this edition far beyond its predecessors, and make it very valuable. I hope the work may meet the success the great labour bestowed upon it certainly merits.

DANIEL AGNEW.

Beaver, Oct. 24, 1853.

*From the Hon. John N. Purviance.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the Specimen Sheets of Mr. Brightly's New Edition of Purdon's Digest, and tested many of the References, by examination of the several works referred to, and, in every instance, have found them accurate. It is a work of no ordinary labour, and one requiring great patience and research, to cull out the various Sections of Acts of the Legislature, and arrange them, as is done in this work, severally under one head; especially is this so, as the Title to Acts so often imperfectly indicates the Sections following it. Every thing now a-days is very much upon the labour-saving principle, and this work in that respect, is fully up to the times; for you have all the Statutes for each given subject under one appropriate head, with explanatory Marginal and Foot Notes, and Judicial Decisions, presented at one view. My opinion is, it promises to be one of the most convenient and useful Digests ever offered to the Profession; and I wish, very cordially, Mr. Brightly that success which his work merits.

JOHN N. PURVIANCE.

Butler, Oct. 28, 1853.

*From R. Gilliland, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—Having examined your Specimen Sheet of Mr. Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, I would say without the least hesitation that I deem it faultless, and a work of inestimable value. The continued unmutilated view of the Law on each subject—the fulness of the Foot Notes, and its whole arrangement throughout, entitle Mr. Brightly to the highest meed of praise, and the lasting gratitude of every member of the Bar.

R. GILLILAND.

Newcastle, Oct. 29, 1853.

### Eighteenth Judicial District.

VENANGO, CLARION, JEFFERSON, FOREST, AND MERCER COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. J. S. M'Calmon, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have looked over the Specimen Sheet of the Eighth Edition of Purdon, which I received from you this morning. The features distinguishing this Edition from the former ones, apparent on examination of the Specimen, are, the Marginal References to the Acts, and to the Judicial Decisions at the foot of each page. The preparation of these must have cost Mr. Brightly, the Editor, much labour and pains, for which he eminently deserves the thanks of the people. This New Edition of Purdon is, beyond comparison, superior to the old ones; and the marvel is, how, after so much care and expense in the getting up of the Book, it can be offered at a lower price than heretofore. It must be expected by you that the increased demand will recompense for the outlay. I sincerely hope it will, and that a copy may be found in the hands of every one holding, or expecting to hold, official position in the Commonwealth; and that the State may so appreciate the service of the Editor as to assist in the dissemination of the work.

J. S. M'CALMONT.

Clarion, Oct. 27, 1853.

*From the Hon. W. Waugh.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Sheets you sent me, of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, to be edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq., which you propose soon to publish. It gives me pleasure to say, from the examination I have been able to make of the work, that it seems to be every way worthy the strong commendation with which it is every where received. The features that distinguish it from previous Editions, viz., the Marginal References, Notes of Judicial Decisions at the foot of each page and in juxtaposition to the Act of Assembly to which they refer, Contents with Reference to general subjects and their appropriate subdivisions, together with a copious and well arranged Index; all render the work indispensable to the Profession, and useful to the general Business Man. The plan of the Digest seems to be the most convenient and perspicuous of any I have seen, while the execution and style of the work are unexceptionable. The work, as now arrayed, seems so well to meet a difficulty I have sometimes encountered in readily finding a matter to which there was no particular reference in the Index, that I can without hesitation give it my warmest approbation.

W. WAUGH.

West Greenville, Oct. 31, 1853.

### Nineteenth Judicial District.

YORK AND ADAMS COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Robert J. Fisher, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined that portion of Brightly's Edition of Purdon's Digest transmitted to me. The plan as well as the execution of the work is excellent. The Marginal References, the Notes to Judicial Decisions, the digested syllabus of each Title, and the copious and well arranged Index make it the most valuable book of its kind now in use, and commend it highly to the Profession.

York, Oct. 25, 1853.

ROBERT J. FISHER.

*From the Hon. D. Durkee.*

Gentlemen,—In examining the Sheets you were pleased to send me, of Mr. Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, I find it to be entirely worthy of its accomplished Editor. Its plan, alike remarkable for its comprehensiveness and its simplicity, greatly excels that of any similar work I have ever met with; and judging from the Specimen before me, the execution of it is without fault.

York, Oct. 29, 1853.

D. DURKEE.

*From the Hon. David G. Barnitz.*

Gentlemen,—I have yours of the 26th Oct., enclosing Specimen Sheets of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest. The plan seems to me to be the very thing requisite to meet the wants of the Profession, and I think will be generally acceptable to them. Please place my name on the list of subscribers, and send me the work when issued.

DAVID G. BARNITZ.

York, Oct. 31, 1853.

*From Thomas P. Potts, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I take pleasure in testifying to the improved manner in which it is proposed to submit a New Edition of Purdon's Digest to the public. The order in which the Statutes are arranged, the Marginal References, the References to the Decisions of the Courts and to the Acts of Assembly, bring at one glance, before the eye, the whole subject treated of, and renders a Reference to the Decisions easy. It is this arrangement which gives to the book its superiority over former Editions.

York, Oct. 31, 1853.

THOMAS P. POTTS.

**Twentieth Judicial District.****MIFFLIN AND UNION COUNTIES.***From the Hon. A. S. Wilson, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—The opportunity afforded me of an examination of a few Sheets of the Edition of Purdon's Digest in progress of publication, edited by Mr. Brightly, enables me to recommend it as a work of decided merit. The superadded features of Marginal References, Notes of Judicial Decisions, the subdivisions into which each Title has been distributed, and the arrangement of the Index with the other additions which distinguish it from the edition now in use are calculated to greatly facilitate research, which it is often necessary to make during the progress of Judicial proceedings when the courts are in session. The general plan of the proposed Edition is much needed in a work of the kind, and with its execution, if completed in the style represented by the Sheets I have examined, cannot fail to secure for it a ready sale, and place the Profession under obligations to Mr. Brightly, for the assistance which the work will afford them in the examination of subjects connected with its contents.

Lewistown, Nov. 2, 1853.

A. S. WILSON.

*From Isaac Slenker, Esquire.*

Dear Sir,—I have carefully examined the Pages you have submitted to me of Mr. Brightly's New Edition of Purdon's Digest, and it affords me pleasure in expressing my belief that the plan of the Work is an excellent one, and well calculated to afford the Practitioner, as proposed in the Preface, "a complete Analytical View of the Law on any given subject, presented to the eye in a continuous connexion." In this respect it will be a very great improvement on the former Editions, and prove highly convenient for a speedy reference, not only to the contents of an Act of Assembly, but also to any judicial construction that has been put on it. I hope the Author will be abundantly remunerated for the learning and industry which he has bestowed on it.

ISAAC SLENKER.

New Berlin, Oct. 29, 1853.

**Twenty-First Judicial District.****SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.***From the Hon. James Cooper.*

Gentlemen,—I have received and examined with care the Proof Sheets of Brightly's forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you were good enough to send me, and am satisfied that it will be a great improvement on the former Editions of the Work. The Marginal Abstracts, the mode of reference to the Pamphlet Laws, the Notes of Judicial Decisions at the foot of each page, together with the Comprehensive Table of Contents prefixed to each Title, are all substantial improvements, which will add much to the value and convenience of the Book. That the Work will meet with a favourable reception from the Members of the Bar throughout the State, I have no doubt.

Pottsville, Oct. 27, 1853.

JAMES COOPER.

*From the Hon. F. W. Hughes.*

Gentlemen,—I have been much gratified with the perusal of the "Specimen Sheets" of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, by Mr. Brightly, which you are about to publish. The superadded features are manifestly great improvements upon former Editions, notwithstanding their great merit. I feel quite sure that the Profession and Public generally will be laid under great obligations to Mr. Brightly for the conception of so many valuable features in his plan, executed at the cost of great labour, research, and ability as a Lawyer.

F. W. HUGHES.

Pottsville, Nov. 3, 1853.

*From Edward Owen Parry, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have, with great pleasure, examined the Sheets, you have had the kindness to send me, of your New Edition of Purdon's Digest. The subdivisions of the Titles, the collecting of all the Legislation on the subject under each subdivision in consecutive Sections, removes a difficulty which every one has experienced in the use of the former Editions of the Digest. The plan you have adopted gives at one view the Statute Law of Pennsylvania, so plain and clear, that it will be as useful to those not of the Legal Profession, who wish to know what Acts of Assembly have been passed relating to any particular matter, as to the Bench or Bar. The arrangement of the References to Decisions in the Foot Notes is a decided improvement. In this Edition, Mr. Brightly has in fact codified the Statutes of the Commonwealth, and in so doing has well discharged that debt which Lord Coke says every Lawyer owes to his Profession and to his Country. Your enterprise deserves the thanks of the Profession. Please accept mine.

EDWARD OWEN PARRY.

Pottsville, Oct. 28, 1853.

## Twenty-Second Judicial District.

MONROE, PIKE, WAYNE, AND CARBON COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. James M. Porter, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have received and read the Proof Sheets of a portion of your forthcoming Eighth Edition of the Digest of the Laws of Pennsylvania, edited by F. C. Brightly, Esq. I think it, both in its arrangement and execution, a decided improvement upon all previous Digests of our Statutes. Mr. Brightly deserves high praise for bringing the order, method, and discipline of his own mind to bear upon this Work.

J. M. PORTER.

*Easton, Oct. 24, 1853.**From W. Davis, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined the Specimen Pages of your forthcoming Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq., and highly approve of the plan and arrangement of the Book. The new features of this Digest are very great improvements, and the Profession will be much indebted to the Editor and the enterprising Publishers.

W. DAVIS.

*Stroudsburg, Oct. 28, 1853.**From F. M. Crane, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined thirty-two pages of Mr. Brightly's proposed Edition of Purdon's Digest, and, with great pleasure, say, in my opinion, the plan of the work far exceeds that of any previous Digest of our Laws. It is, with propriety, said, by Mr. Brightly, that "what the Practitioner requires is a complete Analytical View of the Law on any given subject presented to the eye in a continuous connexion." This, with the superadded features, Marginal Notes, &c., seem to supply the deficiencies in all our previous Digests, and must necessarily introduce this into general use with the Profession.

F. M. CRANE.

*Honesdale, Oct. 27, 1853.**From C. S. Minor, Esquire.*

Gentlemen,—I have received and carefully examined the Specimen Sheets you have sent me of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest. I consider the arrangement far superior to any former Edition of that Work. For convenient reference, I do not see how it can be improved.

C. S. MINOR.

*Honesdale, Nov. 5, 1853.*

## Twenty-Third Judicial District.

BERKS COUNTY.

*From the Hon. J. Pringle Jones, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined carefully the Specimen Sheets of the New Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you are about to give to the Public, under the Editorship of Mr. Brightly. That gentleman's name alone would be a sufficient guarantee that his part of the Work will be performed in a satisfactory manner; but the Sheets before me are pregnant with proof that this production of his will exceed the high raised expectations of the Bench and of the Bar.

Every new feature, that has been introduced into this Edition, is an improvement upon all preceding Digests, and will tend directly to making the body of the Laws more convenient of usage, as well to those whose lives are, as to those whose lives are not, devoted to legal pursuits. To the Magistracy, especially, will the labours of Mr. Brightly prove most acceptable and most useful. He places the Laws, as they are affected by Legislation, as they are construed and understood in the Courts, within the instant reach, alike of Lawyer and of Layman.

It was often said in the Profession that a combination of Purdon's Arrangement and of Dunlop's Notes would make a perfect Digest. In the one you are about to give us, we have all that, and much, very much, besides. Withal, it is the cheapest Book of the kind that we have had in many years, whilst its mechanical execution seems to be in every way worthy of your house. You have done all that can be done to render it worthy of the most extended circulation.

J. PRINGLE JONES.

*Reading, Oct. 24, 1853.**From the Hon. John Banks.*

Gentlemen,—I have received, and carefully examined, the sheets of Mr. Brightly's Edition of Purdon's Digest, which you sent me. His plan is a good one. The order in which the Acts of Assembly are printed, is a convenient one. The Notes, and full Analysis of each Decision, are a great improvement. The book, when published, if completed according to the specimen which I have received, will be valuable to the Legal Profession, and the Public.

JOHN BANKS.

*Reading, Oct. 25, 1853.**From the Hon. David F. Gordon.*

Gentlemen,—Your favour of the 22d inst., with some Sheets of the forthcoming Edition of Purdon's Digest, prepared by F. C. Brightly, Esq., was received yesterday. I have examined the arrangement of the book so far as these leaves exhibit it, and have found it to conform to my notions of what a Digest ought to be to render it valuable, as a labour-saving machine. The proper object of such a work is to bring together for ready Reference all Legislative enactments in *pari materia*, within the smallest compass that types and paper will conveniently allow. This has always appeared to me to be indispensable in a book from which the Laws are to be cited before the Judges. The Alphabetical arrangement of Titles is of such well-known convenience as to require some good reason for departing from it in a book designed for daily reference. The Marginal Notes, containing brief Abstracts of the Sections, and the Foot Notes of Judicial Decisions, are improvements on the former editions of this work, which will be understood and appreciated by every Professional reader. The Digestive Table of Contents, at the head of every title, with a similar General Table prefixed to the whole, direct the attention of the inquirer with much facility to the particular subjects he may desire to refer to. The former editions of Purdon presented the Public Statutes arranged under suitable heads, with the Dates of their Enactments, but Mr. Brightly has attempted something more than this. He has collected under their appropriate heads all Enactments of a public nature, without regard to their respective Dates, bringing together every kindred provision to be found in the Statute Books, and presenting in the closest practicable juxtaposition a full view of the Law upon every subject; while the Dates of the Acts, and

the Numbers of the Sections, and the Pages of the Books containing them, are referred to in Notes at the foot of the Text, arranged in numerical order. With an Index carefully prepared, it seems to me to be all that is desirable in a Digest of the Laws, and cannot fail, I think, to become the *vade mecum* of the Profession in this Commonwealth.

DAVID F. GORDON.

Reading, Oct. 25, 1853.

*From the Hon. J. Glancy Jones.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined with great care the Sheets you sent me of a proposed New Edition of Purdon's Digest, to be Edited by Mr. Brightly. Judging by the Specimen, I have no hesitation in saying that this Digest will secure to the Profession all that is meritorious in such a work, namely—a collection by Analysis, of all the Acts relating to each particular subject, with their dates; together with the Judicial Decisions thereon; and these rendered of easy access, by copious Indexes. The plan, I think, is admirable; must give general satisfaction, and place the whole Profession under obligations to the Editor.

J. GLANCY JONES.

Reading, Oct. 28, 1853.

#### Twenty-Fourth Judicial District.

HUNTINGDON, BLAIR AND CAMBRIA COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. Michael Dan Magehan.*

Gentlemen,—I have examined your Specimen of the Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, with some care. The Legal Profession will certainly feel themselves bound to render their thanks to Mr. Brightly for the many valuable improvements which he has made in his Edition of the Digest, and not only in the general plan, but in the Analysis connected therewith, which is worthy of all commendation, and will add much to his great reputation as a sound and well-read Jurist.

Ebensburg, Oct. 29, 1853.

MICHAEL DAN MAGEHAN.

*From Messrs. Wilson & Petrikin, Attorneys at Law.*

Gentlemen,—Having carefully examined the Sheets sent us of the proposed Eighth Edition of Purdon's Digest, by F. C. Brightly, Esq., we cannot hesitate to express our admiration both of the plan and execution of the work. The great merit of the proposed work, and what places it before all other Digests of our State Laws is, that all the Statute Laws on every given subject are presented in a continuous connexion, catching the eye of the practitioner at a glance. The Marginal References and the Foot Notes are also invaluable; and, upon the whole, we consider it a Guide Book and Companion for every Pennsylvania Lawyer, that must supersede all the Pennsylvania Digests now published. We shall eagerly await its publication.

WILSON & PETRIKIN.

Huntingdon, Oct. 26, 1853.

#### Twenty-Fifth Judicial District.

CENTRE, CLINTON AND CLEARFIELD COUNTIES.

*From the Hon. James Burnside, President Judge.*

Gentlemen,—I have carefully examined the Sheets you sent me of Mr. Brightly's Edition of Purdon, and have no hesitation in saying that it is such a work as will commend itself to the favourable notice of the Profession. The grouping together of all the Acts and Sections on a particular subject, the facility with which the knowledge of the Date of each Act or Section can be had, with the Notes of Judicial Decisions, are great improvements.

JAMES BURNSIDE.

Bellefonte, Nov. 7, 1853.

 The Publishers stop the press to acknowledge the receipt of Eulogistic Letters from the Hon. E. BANKS, Auditor-General of the State; WILLIAM B. REED, Esquire, District Attorney for the City and County of Philadelphia; HENRY SOUTHER, Esquire, of Ridgway, Elk County; and WILLIAM A. COOK, Esquire, Member Elect of the Legislature, of Greensburg, Westmoreland County. The Publishers regret their inability to introduce these Letters into the present sheet, and propose to issue them in another and more complete edition.

### PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

## A DIGEST OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES,

ON THE PLAN OF

### “Purdon's Digest—1700 to 1853.”

KAY & BROTHER beg leave to announce that they have in course of preparation, A DIGEST OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, which will be compiled on the model which, in the case of their Eighth edition of Purdon's Digest, has given so much satisfaction to the Legal Profession and the Public. The Alphabetical Arrangement; the Marginal References; the Foot Notes of Judicial Decisions; the Analytical Contents; the Digested Syllabus of each Title; the References at the foot of the page to the Statutes from which each Section is taken; the ample Index, giving not only the Page, but also the Section; and the same regard to Accuracy in the Verification of all the References, and to Convenience of Size of Volume, will characterize this work. The price will be FIVE DOLLARS PER COPY; as the Publishers have the conviction that the universal demand for its possession will reimburse them for their heavy outlay in its publication.